Climate Change Negotiations: Can the Media Play a Role in Sustaining the Momentum from Cancún?

programme

6th asia-europe journalists’ seminar

4-6 June 2011
Szentendre / Budapest, Hungary

in conjunction with the
10th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting
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We wish to promote mutual understanding among journalists and other media practitioners from Asia and Europe.

The objective of this Seminar is to have open and candid discussions on the given subject.

The main sessions will be held as closed-door proceedings, where participants can speak their minds freely as individuals without wearing their official hats, if any.

We value your views and want you to participate actively.

To facilitate a frank discussion, we will abide by Chatham House Rules.
Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar

The Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar series was designed to enhance the exchange of perspectives and information among experts and senior journalists from Asia and Europe on strategic issues facing both regions.

It is a forum for journalists to be updated on current world developments and issues being addressed by the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Process, and the joint approaches being taken to deal with them.

The seminar aims to expose journalists to the different ways of thinking in both regions, and in turn, promote more accurate, balanced and in-depth media analyses of Asia-Europe relations.

Accordingly, the seminars are held in conjunction with official ASEM conferences, and participants are invited to stay on to cover and observe the actual proceedings.

The Seminar series helps to build and foster important networking relationships among journalists and officials that extend in Asia and Europe.

*For other media-related programmes by ASEF, visit www.asef.org for more information.

1st Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
18-24 May 2003 | Brussels, Belgium

2nd Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
25 July 2003 | Bali, Indonesia
In conjunction with the 5th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

3rd Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
The Future of ASEM
8 May 2005 | Kyoto, Japan
In conjunction with the 7th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

4th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
Strategic Issues in Asia-Europe Relations: Perspectives from the Media
26-27 May 2007 | Hamburg, Germany
In conjunction with the 8th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

5th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
Moving Towards a Post-Crisis World
23-24 May 2009 | Hanoi, Vietnam
In conjunction with the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

6th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
Climate Change Negotiations: Can the Media Play a Role in Sustaining the Momentum from Cancún?
4-6 June 2011 | Szentendre, Hungary
In conjunction with the 10th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting
Climate Change Negotiations: Can the Media Play a Role in Sustaining the Momentum from Cancún?

There were significantly diverging notions of impact, responsibilities and historical contexts that underpinned the climate change debate between Europe and Asia in the lead-up to COP 15 in Copenhagen.

However, some of these differences appear to have been bridged. The successful conclusion of COP16 held in December 2010 in Cancún gives hope for an eventual coordinated global response to effectively manage climate change.

For the UNFCCC negotiations to be successful, countries must accept adapting to climate change at the national as well as the international level, and through a more committed and sophisticated approach by all parties. Europe must focus more on mitigating emissions while Asia needs to focus more on adapting to the impact of those emissions. In this respect, the media can play an important role in driving awareness of the key issues which have been hitherto stumbling blocks for reaching a final agreement that is an internationally binding accord.
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- **To facilitate** an improved environmental understanding between Asia and Europe
- **To promote** better cross-cultural understanding of the causes of climate change, and the burden of impact of climate change
- **To examine** the role of the media for a better coordinated global response to climate change
- **To take stock** of recent trends in climate change negotiations, from COP 15 to COP 16; assessing the positive outcomes as well as obstacles in these negotiations
- **To understand** fully the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and its relationship to climate negotiations

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

- What lessons can be drawn from the failure of COP15 to secure an internationally-binding accord? And what improvements were made at COP 16?
- The impact of climate change is felt differently in various countries. This depends largely on the country’s level of development.
- There are different perceptions in the Asian and European media on the notion of historical responsibilities for climate change.
- Increasing inter-connectedness from the impact of climate change offers challenges as well as opportunities for environmental journalism.
### SATURDAY / 04 JUNE 2011

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<td>Dr Tan Lian Choo</td>
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<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>Regional Environmental Center</td>
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<td>09.45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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**Programme**

**K+K Hotel Opera**
1065 Budapest
Révay utca 24
+36 1 269 0222

**Participants gather at hotel lobby**

**Welcome Dinner**

**VakVarjú Étterem**
1061 Budapest
Paulay Ede utca 7
+36 1 268 0888

**Dress code:**
Smart Casual

**Welcome Remarks**

**Amb Dr András Balogh**
Governor for Hungary
Asia-Europe Foundation

**End of dinner**

### SUNDAY / 05 JUNE 2011

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<td>Opening Keynote Speech</td>
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<td>The Future of Energy and Its Implications for Asia</td>
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<td>Warren Fernandez</td>
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<td>Regional Director (Asia-Pacific)</td>
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SUNDAY / 05 JUNE 2011

10.00  The Climate Change Debate: Where are we Now?

Introductory Remarks

Tejas Ewing
Seminar Moderator
Director, Ewing Communications
Formerly Carbon Markets Coordinator,
New Economics Foundation

10.10  Session 1:
What are the Lessons from COP16?

Panel

Li Xing
Assistant Editor-in-Chief, China Daily

Frank McDonald
Environment Editor, The Irish Times

Wilson Ang
Founder/President, Environmental Challenge Organisation (ECO) Singapore

Discussion / Q&A

11.00  Session 2:
What are common but differentiated responsibilities?

Panel

Dr Deep K Datta-Ray
Assistant Editor, The Times of India

Tan Copsey
Development Manager, China Dialogue

Discussion / Q&A

11.50  Breakout Groups

Group A
Lessons learned from COP16
Moderator drawn from European participants (TBC)

Group B
What are common but differentiated responsibilities?
Moderator drawn from Asian participants (TBC)

13.00  Lunch @ REC

14.30  Session 3:
Presentation by breakout groups

Summary of the day’s discussion by the moderator

Case Study:
Faluház Mintaprojekt (Village House)
(This is Hungary’s largest residential panel building, located in Óbuda)

15.30  Depart for site visit
Ill. Kerulet Óbuda-Bekasmegyer

16.00  Depart for dinner
Dinner

16.30  Trófea Grill Étterem Óbuda
1033 Budapest
Laktanya u. 3-5.
+36 1 208 8000
MONDAY / 06 JUNE 2011

07.00  Breakfast

08.00  **Participants gather at hotel lobby**

08.15  Departure for Szentendre, Hungary

**Regional Environmental Center**
Zero-Emissions Conference Center
2000 Szentendre
Ady Endre út 9

09.00  Review and Summary of
Day 1 discussions by Moderator

09.15  **Session 4:**
*Inspiring change in the Climate Change Debate: How can the media raise public awareness towards encouraging public action?*

Panel

**James Fahn**
Executive Director, Earth Journalism Network

**Per Meilstrup**
Climate Director, Monday Morning

**Jonathan Glennie**
Research Fellow, Overseas Devt Institute
Contributor, The Guardian

**Vilmos Kisszel**
President, Göncol Foundation

Discussion / Q&A

11.00  Coffee Break

11.15  **Concluding Session:**

**Summary of the discussions and draft recommendations by the Moderator**

12.00  Light lunch @ REC

13.00  **Book presentation**
The Asia-Europe Meeting: Contributing to a New Global Governance Structure (ASEM8 in Brussels, 2010)
Amsterdam University Press 2011

**Dr Sebastian Bersick** (Editor)
Associate Fellow, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

Q&A

13.45  **Briefing on REC**

Overview of Climate Change activities at REC

Introduction of EC2 (Europe-China Clean Energy Centre) project

Education and Awareness-raising on Climate Change

Discussion on concept behind the REC Zero-Emission Conference Centre

16.30  **Closing Reception**
REC Garden

**Closing Remarks**

**Amb Dominique Girard**
Executive Director
Asia-Europe Foundation
about the speakers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Warren Fernandez** is Global Manager for Shell’s Future Energy project. He leads a team drawn from around the world which looks into long-term issues facing the energy industry, and the positions in relation to these that Shell should advocate and communicate with key stakeholders globally.

He is also the regional director for Communications Strategy in Shell’s Asia Pacific Hub, based in Singapore.

Prior to joining Shell, he was Deputy Editor of *The Straits Times*. A veteran journalist, he had also served as the paper’s Foreign Editor, overseeing its network of correspondents throughout Asia and the world, as well as its News Editor and Political Editor. He also wrote a regular column in the paper called *Thinking Aloud*.

Warren has a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and a Bachelor of Arts (First Class) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from the University of Oxford.

He has served on several national committees, including the Remaking Singapore Committee, the Singapore 21 committee, COMPASS, the National Education committee, the Board of Directors of the Civil Service College Board and the National Energy Agency, and the Finance committee of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. He is currently a Board Member of the Energy Studies Institute, and a council member of the Singapore Institute for International Affairs and the Institute for Public Relations Singapore.

He is the author of several books - *Lee Kuan Yew: the man and his ideas; Without Fear or Favour: 50 years of the Public Service Commission; Thinking Allowed?: politics, fear and change in Singapore; Men for Others*; and most recently, *Our Homes: 50 years of housing a nation.*

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**Warren FERNANDEZ**

Global Manager,
Future Energy Project
SHELL EASTERN PETROLEUM
Singapore
Tejas Ewing is a leading expert on carbon trading for both the compliance and voluntary carbon markets, having published key analysis and critiques of voluntary carbon offset providers and the voluntary carbon market as a whole. His publications have been read by over 50,000 environmental leaders worldwide. Tejas currently works as a climate change and management consultant, having already completed projects for Siemens, BT, Haymarket Publishing and IBM, in Singapore, India, Brazil and the UK. He specialises in strategic climate change consulting and environmental communications projects for businesses, governments and NGOs.

Tejas recently spearheaded an innovative climate change adaptation campaign at the London-based New Economics Foundation (www.neweconomics.org) the “Think-tank of the Year” in 2002. He spoke at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen as well as analysed the conference outcome in Mexico. His recent project focused on climate change adaptation, a vastly under-represented issue in today’s climate change debate. The new initiative aims to use the voluntary carbon markets to provide new funding to projects that assist those already affected by climate change to adapt to their changing surroundings. The project deals directly with the common but differentiated responsibilities of developed and developing countries when it comes to climate change.

Tejas has a Master’s degree in Leadership for Sustainable Development run in conjunction with Forum for the Future in London, and a Bachelor’s degree in Human Geography, focusing on Sustainable Development, from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. In 2005, he worked as a journalist with The Hindu newspaper, the leading English-language daily in India, covering breaking news, environmental reporting, social issues, arts and culture, science and business. He has also worked as an environmental journalist in London, having published two editions of the world’s most comprehensive analysis of Voluntary Carbon Offset providers for the leading environmental journal in Europe, Environmental Data Services. More information on this project can be found at: www.endscarbonoffsets.com
SESSION 1:
What are the Key Lessons Learned from COP16?

Li Xing is Assistant Editor-in-Chief and Chief US correspondent of China Daily. For nearly 30 years since she joined the national English language newspaper in China, she has covered politics, international relations, culture, science and medicine, environment and climate change. She has traveled extensively in China and the world. Also as China Daily's columnist, she has commented on a variety of issues ranging from world politics, society, culture, education, environment and climate change.

Frank McDonald is Environment Editor of The Irish Times, author of several books including The Destruction of Dublin (1985), Saving the City (1989) and The Construction of Dublin (2000) and joint author with James Nix of Chaos at the Crossroads (2005) and with Kathy Sheridan of The Builders (2008).

He has also reported on UN climate change conferences over the years, including (most recently) Copenhagen and Cancún. A regular contributor to radio and television programmes, he won the Outstanding Work in Irish Journalism award in 1979, the Lord Mayor's Millennium Medal (1988), Chartered Institute of Transport Journalist of the Year (1998), two ESB National Media Awards (1999 and 2003) and a Lord Mayor's Award (2003). Conferred with an Honorary DPhil by Dublin Institute of Technology in 2006, he was made an honorary member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland in 2010. He was also a Press Fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge, in 2008.

Wilson Ang is the founder and President of the Environmental Challenge Organisation (ECO Singapore). Formerly a full time Officer in the Air Force, he has since 2006 headed this outreach programme which has educated up to 60,000 members of the public to do their part in protecting the environment.

He has been attending annually the conferences on the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) since 2002 and the UNFCCC COP sessions since 2007. He was responsible for the Youth Constituency during COP15 in 2009, bringing over 20,000 young people and organisation into the International Youth Climate Movement.
SESSION 2:
What are Common but Differentiated Responsibilities?

**Tan COPSEY**
Development Manager
CHINA DIALOGUE
United Kingdom
tan.copsey@chinadialogue.net

**Deep K DATTA-RAY**
Assistant Editor
THE TIMES OF INDIA
India
dattaray@gmail.com

**Tan Copsey** is a London-based writer, researcher and policy analyst. As a member of China Dialogue’s editorial team, he oversees their climate change projects, writes articles and policy reports. He has written extensively on the international politics of climate change for publications, including The Guardian, The Guardian Weekly, openDemocracy and China Dialogue. He is the author of *Greening China: Outlook for European SMEs* – a policy report on green European SMEs in China and was a co-author of China Dialogue’s recent e-book *China’s Green Revolution: Energy, Environment and the 12th Five Year Plan*.

Tan has acted as a rapporteur for high-level climate summits including the 2010 C40 Cities climate leadership group meeting in Hong Kong. Before joining China Dialogue in 2007, he worked in the editorial team at online political magazine openDemocracy focusing on environmental issues.

He has an MA degree (First Class Honours) from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, where he undertook primary research into the historical development of New Zealand and international climate change policy. Whilst at the University he also taught International Relations and Media politics and was a participating researcher in the 2005 New Zealand Election Content Analysis.

**Deep K DATTA-RAY** is Assistant Editor, *The Times of India*. He writes on environmental and trade negotiations and is also responsible for running the Edit Page’s interviews. Deep has personally interviewed Nobel laureates, Ministers and environmental campaigners.

Before joining the Times, Deep was the most frequently published Indian in the South China Morning Post’s Op-Ed pages.

He was schooled in Calcutta, Honolulu, Singapore and at boarding school in England. Deep then read Chinese history at SOAS, War Studies at King’s College, London, and for a D.Phil at Sussex. For the D.Phil, Deep spent a year embedded in the Indian Foreign Ministry at Headquarters. He is the only person to have been granted such access and is currently converting his thesis into a manuscript for publication.
**James FAHN**

Executive Director  
EARTH JOURNALISM NETWORK  
Co-founder  
THAI SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISTS  
jfahn@internews.org

James Fahn is the Global Director of Internews’ Environmental Programs and the Executive Director of the Earth Journalism Network, which aims to improve the quantity and quality of environmental coverage.

Fahn is a journalist who has primarily focused on environmental issues in developing countries. For nine years during the 1990s, Fahn was based in Thailand where he was a reporter and editor for The Nation, an English-language daily newspaper based in Bangkok, and hosted a television show. His book, *A Land on Fire*, published in 2003, recounts the issues and scandals he uncovered while working on the environmental beat in Southeast Asia.

Fahn has also written for the *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Economist*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Jakarta Post*, *SciDev.net*, *Nature.com*, and *The Huffington Post*. He currently writes a column for the *Columbia Journalism Review*.

Fahn received UNEP’s Global 500 Award for *The Nation*’s environmental reporting, and was pinned by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn for his service to Thailand. Fahn was co-founder of the Thai Society of Environmental Journalists.

He has also worked for the Ford Foundation as a program associate in the field of environment and development. He holds a master’s degree in international affairs from Columbia University and a bachelor’s degree from Amherst College.

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**Jonathan GLENNIE**

Research Fellow  
OVERSEAS DEV’T INSTITUTE  
United Kingdom  
jonathanglennie@yahoo.co.uk

Jonathan Glennie works at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) as a research fellow in the Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure (CAPE).

Previously, he managed the aid programme of Christian Aid in Colombia and worked on several international campaigns, including *Make Poverty History* and the Jubilee Debt Campaign.

He is the author of *The Trouble with Aid: Why less could mean more for Africa* and blogs regularly for The Guardian’s award-winning development website: [www.guardian.co.uk/profile/jonathanglennie](http://www.guardian.co.uk/profile/jonathanglennie)
Per MEILSTRUP is a leading Danish figure in the field of environment, climate change and green growth with more than 20 years of experience in communications, policy, business and advisory.

He is currently Climate Director at Mandag Morgen (Monday Morning), Scandinavia’s leading independent think-tank, where he developed and headed internationally-acclaimed initiatives and projects such as the Copenhagen Climate Council, the World Business Summit on Climate Change, the World Climate Solutions and the Green Growth Leaders. He worked closely with prominent scientists, politicians, civil society and private sector leaders. Among these were UN SG Ban Ki-moon, US Energy Secretary and Nobel Laureate Steven Chu, author Tim Flannery, sociologist Lord Anthony Giddens, EU Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard, Executive Director of IPCC, Dr. Pachauri, Executive Director of UN Global Compact Georg Kell and CEOs of e.g. PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, Novo Nordisk, Vestas, Duke Energy, China Power International, and Suntech. All initiatives have been based on building collaborative multistakeholder platforms aimed at innovation through co-creation.

He is the author of a number of books, including Kampen om klimaet, a behind-the-scenes documentary about COP15 (2010), which made headlines in international media upon its release in May 2010. He was nominated for the most prestigious Danish media prize, Cavling Prisen, the Danish equivalent of the US Pulitzer Prize for the book. Per Meilstrup is one of the most widely-known commentators in Danish media on climate change issues, and is often quoted in the international media.

A journalist by training, Per in all his work has a strong emphasis on storytelling and communication as a tool for change.

Vilmos KISZEL has been the President of the Göncol Foundation, a Hungarian environmental organisation, since 1986.

He has been the Chairman of the Hungarian National Committee of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 2001. He was also the Chairman of the National Environmental Council of Hungary from 1996 to 2006 and Chairman of the National Committee of Law of Environment of Hungary from 1992 to 1995. He also served as a Representative to the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils from 1998-2007.

Vilmos Kiszel graduated with a degree in Astronomy from the Eötvös University of Sciences in Budapest, and later studied biology, geophysics and law. He has had two decades of experience in environmental legislation.
about the participants

Jessica CHEAM

Environment Correspondent
THE STRAITS TIMES
Singapore
jc@sp.com.sg

Jessica Cheam is a correspondent at The Straits Times who reports on property, environment, energy and climate change. She joined the newspaper full-time in 2006 after being awarded a scholarship by the Singapore Press Holdings to study a Masters in Journalism at London's Goldsmith College where her work was nominated for a PTC Journalist Award (UK). She has also written for London-based publications such as The Independent, The Times and The Ecologist.

Jessica is the founder and editor of the website www.eco-business.com, which is a leading provider of news and views on sustainable business for the Asia Pacific community.

She received the Earth Journalism Award, which was held in Copenhagen in December 2009 given by Internews and the World Bank. In March 2010, she was named Young Journalist of the Year by Singapore Press Holdings at its annual English and Malay Newspaper Division awards. In February 2011, her stories on sustainability won her the first ASEAN Green Technology Journalism Award by Siemens.

When she is not writing, she trains for the elusive marathon she doesn’t have time for.

Kieran COOKE

A LIGHTER SHADE OF GREEN
United Kingdom
kieran.cooke@btopenworld.com

Kieran Cooke is a former foreign correspondent for the BBC and Financial Times who now specialises in environmental issues, in particular relations between the business sector, the media and the environment. He has extensive knowledge of Asia, having been based in various countries in Southeast Asia and in Hong Kong and Japan. He is a native of Ireland and lives near Oxford in the UK.

www.lightershadeofgreen.com

Eath DARAVUTH

Senior News Editor
RADIO VOICE OF DEMOCRACY
Cambodia
daravutheath@vodhotnews.com

Eath Daravuth is the Senior News Editor of Radio Voice of Democracy, a Khmer-language radio station in Cambodia. He was also the News and Features Editor.

Prior to his post at Radio Voice of Democracy, he was a freelance journalist and investigative reporter, having written for Pact Cambodia, CENews Online, Khmer Sakmay Thney magazine, and Economic magazine. Eath Daravuth also wrote for The Mekong Times as a reporter in 2008.
about the participants

Brigitta ISWORO

Senior Journalist
KOMPAS DAILY
Indonesia
brigitta_isw@ymail.com

Brigitta Isworo Laksmi is a senior journalist of the KOMPAS Harian, the most widely read newspaper in Indonesia. She has covered many issues over the years on science, international affairs, sports and reporting the humanities.

She is also a member of The Climate Project Indonesia as a Climate Change presenter.

She was the editor of the book entitled, *60 Tahun Kemerdekaan: Pelapukan Indonesia* (60 Years of Independence: Weathering Indonesia) and co-author of *MF Siregar, Matahari Olahraga Indonesia* (MF Siregar: The Sun of Indonesian Sport).

Brigitta is also currently writing a book on Best Practices in Adaptation towards Climate Change.

Marek KERLES

Journalist
LIDOVÉ NOVINY
Czech Republic
Marek.Kerles@lidovky.cz

Marek Kerles is a reporter for Czech newspaper Lidové noviny. He began his journalism career at the age of 27.

He worked for 14 years at Lidové noviny Prague, the oldest Czech newspaper founded in 1891. He specialises in environment, energy industries (benefits and disadvantages of nuclear energy, renewable energy resources, etc), forestry and water. He also writes articles about climate change and its effects on environment in central Europe, especially for forest and water resources.

Nathan JOHNSON

Editor-in-Chief
GREEN HORIZON
Hungary
NJohnson@rec.org

Nathan Johnson, originally from the United States, has lived and worked in Budapest since 1997. A former deputy editor of the Budapest Business Journal, he is now in his sixth year as editor of Green Horizon, an online environmental news magazine published by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC).

KWON Kyung-Bok

Assistant Editor
World News Desk
CHOSUN ILBO
Korea
kkb@chosun.com

Kwon Kyung-Bok is the Assistant Editor of the World News Desk of the Chosun Ilbo, one of the major newspapers of South Korea. He was the Chief Correspondent in Moscow from 2005 to 2009 and extensively covered diplomatic news in South Korea from 1998 to 2005.

He was named Journalist of the Year by the 1st Korea-Russia Government Dialogue in 2010, and Journalist of the Month by the Journalists’ Association of Korea in 2001.

He graduated with a degree in Political Science and Diplomacy from the Hanyang University, and obtained his MA in Political Science in 1991 and is currently pursuing his PhD.
about the participants

Jussi LAITINEN
Freelance Environment Journalist
Finland
julaitin@gmail.com

Jussi Laitinen has been a freelance environmental journalist since 2000. He writes regularly for Finnish national newspaper Helsingin Sanomat and several magazines in Finland.

In 2010, he received an Environmental Award by the Finnish Fair Organization Finnexpo. He also received the National Kesko Award of Sustainable Development in 2008 and the National Award for Investigative Journalism in 2003.

He has been training and lecturing on domestic energy use and energy efficiency in cold environments since 2009. Jussi is also the author of Small Great Energy Book – A Guide To Energy Efficient Living.

Magdalena MAJEWSKA
Science Desk
NEWSWEEK POLSKA
Poland
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Since 2008, Magdalena Frender-Majewska has been a science journalist for the Newsweek Polska magazine, the Polish edition of the American weekly.

She has written articles specifically devoted to alternative sources of energy and climate change, as well as biodiversity and extinction of species. She also covers issues concerning biology, paleontology, archeology and history.

Magdalena was also educated as a Polish-English-Russian translator.

Paul LUTTIKUIS
Foreign Desk
NRC HANDELSBLAD
Netherlands
p.luttikhuis@nrc.nl

Paul Luttikhuis studied musicology and started his career at NRC Handelsblad, the main evening newspaper in Holland, as a music journalist. In 1997 he switched to the foreign desk, where he wrote mainly about Europe. A few years later, he started writing about the environment as well.

From 2005 until 2009 he was Deputy Chief of the Foreign Desk. He now concentrates on environment, climate change and sustainability. He has a weblog on climate change and writes also for the economy desk. weblogs.nrc.nl/klimaatblog

Nick MALKOUTZIS
Deputy Editor
KATHIMERINI English Edition
Greece
nmalkoutzis@kathimerini.gr

Nick Malkoutzis is the deputy editor of Kathimerini English Edition, Greece’s only English-language daily newspaper and a partner of the International Herald Tribune. Since the debt crisis pushed Greece into the global media spotlight, Nick has commented on the country’s affairs for a number of international outlets, including Bloomberg, Al-Jazeera, the BBC and MSNBC. He also shares his opinions on a range of issues that affect Greece and the European Union - from economic to environmental and sporting to political - on his blog, insidegreece.wordpress.com.
Dominique Minten is a writer at the Foreign Affairs Desk of De Standaard, the leading newspaper in Belgium. He has been a journalist at De Standaard for 20 years. He has been covering climate news for the last 5 years. Previously, he wrote for De Standaard’s Home Desk, where he also covered environmental news and was the Op-Ed Editor.

Arturas Puceta is the Deputy Editor of Lrytas.lt, the online platform of the largest Lithuanian daily, Lietuvos Rytas.

Prior to Lrytas, he worked as a radio and website journalist for the Lithuanian National Radio from 2005 to 2006.

He received his Masters’ Degree in Public Relations at Vilnius University in 2008 and his Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism in 2006.

Nguyen Hai Van is the Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Vietnam News Daily, contributing to editorial and development policies and making decisions on daily news placement. Prior to this, she was the Editor for Domestic News (2007-2010), and Editor for Business and Economic News.

Van covers a wide range of issues, including politics, development, social affairs, and economy. She is also interested in environmental issues.

She received her MA in Journalism with distinction from Cardiff University in the United Kingdom School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies. Additionally, she graduated with a BA in Commercial Business and BA in English from the Hanoi National University.

Rahimy A Rahim is a journalist at leading English daily in Malaysia, The Star. Prior to that, he covered general news, Economy and Crime at Bernama, Malaysia’s national news agency.

Rahimy recently covered the International Conference of Asian Political Parties in Kuala Lumpur, as well as the 34th Governing Council Session International Fund for Agricultural Development, which was held in Rome.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communication from the University of Melbourne.
about the participants

Mikio SUGENO

Chief Correspondent
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After graduating from Waseda University in 1987, Mikio Sugeno started as a staff writer at the Nihon Keizai Shimbun (NIKKEI), Japan’s largest economic daily.

He is currently NIKKEI chief correspondent in Berlin, a post he also previously held between 2003 and 2007. Since 2007, Mikio Sugeno has been working as a senior staff writer / editorial writer, covering economic policy and European issues.

He was born in 1964 in Sendai, Japan.

Borut TAVCAR

Specialized Journalist
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Borut TAVCAR specialises in energy and environmental issues at influential national daily Delo in Slovenia. He is part of an exclusive group of 12 best journalists at Delo, and a member of Project Slovenia 2020, which writes and comments about Slovenia’s path to clean and safe future.

Borut began his journalistic career in 1991, writing about a waste water cleaning plant in Ljubljana. He has had 20 years of experience in environmental coverage.

He recently attended the COP16 Summit in Cancun via the THINK About It platform.

Panyasith THAMMAVONGSA

Assistant News Editor
THE VIENTEAN TIMES
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Panyasith THAMMAVONGSA is the Assistant News Editor and Deputy Head of News for The Vientiane Times, the biggest English daily in Laos. He writes extensively on environment, current affairs, development, drug and health issues.

He was present at COP14 in Poznan 2008.

WANG Dongying

Programme Officer
Energy & Climate Change
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE
China
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Dongying WANG is an Energy and Climate Change Programme Officer at the Global Environmental Institute, China’s leading environmental think-tank based in Beijing. She is engaged in many critical programs, including China-US subnational climate cooperation, China-US Track II Climate Dialogue, climate action planning at China’s provincial level, low-carbon capacity building for China’s decision makers, as well as environment and investment research for Chinese companies investing overseas.

She started her career as a journalist and has reported in China, Egypt and the UK for more than a decade for China’s state-run Xinhua News Agency. Formerly Managing Editor of bilingual environmental online news outlet, China Dialogue, she has reported extensively on sustainability and climate change.

She obtained a MA degree in Multimedia Journalism from the Bournemouth University in the United Kingdom. She graduated with a BA degree in International Journalism from the Shanghai International Studies University.
Ambassador Dominique Girard joined ASEF as its fourth Executive Director in November 2008.

As a graduate in Political Studies from the Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris and in Oriental Languages (Chinese and Vietnamese) from the Ecole Nationale des Langues Orientales (1967 and 1969 respectively), Ambassador Girard is a career diplomat holding the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary (hors classe).

He started his diplomatic career in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Secrétaire des Affaires étrangères (Orient) in 1970 and since then has been alternating diverse postings in the Ministry and in French diplomatic missions in Vietnam, Laos, Singapore, USA and China.

He was Ambassador to Indonesia (1992-1995), Australia (1995-2000), and India (2002-2007). Prior to his present appointment, he was Diplomatic Adviser to the French Government, as well as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Council of France. Ambassador Girard has also been awarded the French Honorary distinction of Officer of the Legion of Honour in 2007.

Tan Lian Choo, ASEF Director of Public Affairs, was formerly Deputy Chief of Mission and Minister-Counsellor at the Singapore Embassy in France and Permanent Delegate of Singapore to UNESCO.

She was the Director of Public Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Singapore (1995-2005), and concurrently acted as the Spokesperson for the Ministry as well as Press Secretary to the Foreign Minister. Before joining the Ministry, she was an award-winning journalist with The Straits Times, reporting on foreign policy and developments in Southeast Asia.

She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from the then University of Singapore in 1973, and completed her post-graduate studies at the Université de Paris I (Pantheon-Sorbonne).
about the organisers

Regional Environmental Center (REC) for Central and Eastern Europe
Hungary

The Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe is an international organization established by 30 countries and the EU. REC has its head office in Hungary and country offices in 17 beneficiary countries. Its mission is to assist in solving environmental problems by promoting cooperation among governments, NGOs, businesses and other environmental stakeholders, and by supporting the exchange of information and public participation in environmental decision making. REC has been traditionally working on Climate Change and Energy, covering awareness raising, capacity building, compliance, mitigation and adaptation, cross-border cooperation projects implementation. [www.rec.org](http://www.rec.org)

China Daily
Beijing, China

China Daily is the national English-language newspaper founded on June 1, 1981. Global readers recognize China Daily as the most authoritative and influential English-language media in the country. China Daily Media Group has 12 print publications and the China Daily website has built an around-the-clock, multi-channel news distribution network. It is also building more overseas bureaus in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe and Asia Pacific region. China Daily is a founding member of the Asia News Network (ANN). China Daily has been building a platform of effective global communication by hosting such international events as the CEO Roundtable, Beijing-Tokyo Forum, ANN Annual Meeting and media forums. More information at [www.chinadaily.com.cn](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn)

Marta BONIFERT
Executive Director
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Dr Marta Szigeti Bonifert became executive director of the REC in May 2003. She has spent 12 years working for the environment in various capacities at organisations such as the Environment Institute and the Environment and Water Ministry in Hungary. Before joining the REC, she spent 10 years in business working for multinational companies in various senior roles ranging from head of human resources to commercial director for the CEE region at companies such as UB McVities, Vivendi Telecom Hungary and the ING Group in Hungary. She is a member of the Environmental Management and Law Association (EMLA) and was its first managing director.

She earned her MBA from the Katz Graduate School of Business from the University of Pittsburgh with a focus on strategy and human resources. She has a degree in management from the International Management Center of Central European University, and has a BSc in psychology/biology from the University of Kuwait.

This seminar was made possible with the support of China Daily, which sponsored the participation of Ms Li Xing, and Shell, for Mr Warren Fernandez.
Please note that ASEF reimburse the travel costs **only after all the required documentation have been submitted with the claim.**

The total subsidy amount is capped at €1,300 for participants travelling from Asia, and €490 for participants travelling from Europe.

This subsidy covers only the **following items:**

- Economy class return air and/or train ticket to Budapest
- Relevant travel taxes
- Visa application fees, if applicable
- Two-way airport transfer in Budapest* (Airport/train station to hotel and vice-versa).

*Please note that the organisers will not cover local transport within the participants’ country of origin (e.g. transfers to and from the airport)

**IMPORTANT:**

To be duly reimbursed, participants must submit their claims with the following supporting documents to ASEF by courier/post after the conference:

- **ALL original boarding passes**
- Copy of travel itinerary
- Original receipt of air/train ticket purchase from the travel agency or airline, bearing the price of the ticket (the air ticket/e-ticket does **not** serve as a valid receipt)
- Original air/train ticket or e-ticket
- Photocopy of passport bearing entry visa to Hungary and original receipt of payment for visa application, if any
- Original receipts of airport taxes paid, if any
- Original receipts for airport transfers (train, airport shuttles or taxi) in Budapest
- an invoice or cover letter from the organisation, if the reimbursement is to be paid to the participant’s organisation

The above documents should be sent in the reimbursement envelope addressed to Ms Theresa Cua at ASEF. This envelope is enclosed in the conference kit.