



Friends of the Conference

To make this a truly international conference we needed representation from as many countries as practical. Over 50 countries were represented, and over 100 journalists were supported wholly or partly by Friends of the Conference.

The Friends of the Conference are organisations who kindly agreed to sponsor scholarships for journalists. In return, the scholar was expected to meet with their sponsor. However the scholar was under no obligation to report on the work of the sponsor.

The practical legacy of the Friends' support will extend far beyond the conference. This event was merely a stepping stone in the development of sustainable networks of science journalists around the world.

In addition to the individual links made, the conference served as an element of a \$2 million peer-to-peer mentoring in science journalism project in Africa and the Middle East being coordinated by the World Federation of Science Journalists with support from Canadian, British and Swedish development agencies.

The conference also contributed to the twinning program of the Federation in which well-established associations mentor new science journalism associations. America's National Association of Science Writers for example are mentoring the Arab Science Writers.

Five such 'twinings' are in place. Many others are on the way and the Australian Science Communicators are exploring opportunities to mentor associations in south-east Asia.

This report lists the Friends of the Conference and the journalists they supported. We appreciate their support.

Niall Byrne
Conference Director, May 2007

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Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina (<http://www.anubih.ba/>) is the highest scientific and artistic institution in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Academy sponsored:

- Ermina Gacic, a journalist and news editor at NTV 99, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Belma Becirbasic, a journalist at BH Dani, Bosnia-Herzegovina

Australian Agency for International Development - AusAID

The Australian Agency for International Development (<http://www.ausaid.gov.au/>) is the Australian Government agency responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program.

AusAID sponsored:

- Ella Syafputri, a journalist at Antara, the Indonesian National News Agency
- Imelda V. Abaño, an environmental journalist and associate editor of the Philippine Gazette Nationwide
- Piyaporn Wongruang, a journalist at the Bangkok Post, Thailand
- Nguyen Dang Vu Long, a journalist and news feature editor at The Vietnam Investment Review, Vietnam
- AusAID also offered support for two PNG journalists but they were unable to attend due to a family crisis.

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - CGIAR

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (<http://www.cgiar.org/>) is a strategic alliance of members, partners and international agricultural centres that mobilises science to benefit the poor.

CGIAR sponsored:

- Hellen Mukiibi, from New Vision Newspaper, Uganda
- Catherine Mgende, media relations at CGIAR, Kenya
- Rosemary Okello-Orlale, from the African Woman and Child Feature Service (AWC), Kenya
- Catherine Karongo, from Capital FM, Kenya
- Luke Onyekakeyah, a journalist at the Guardian Newspaper, Nigeria

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation - CSIRO Minerals

CSIRO, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (<http://www.csiro.au/>), is Australia's national science agency. CSIRO Minerals is working with industry to improve mineral characterisation and processing.

CSIRO Minerals sponsored:

- Wang Yu, an editor and reporter at the China Daily

Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - DFAT

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (<http://www.dfat.gov.au/>) aims to advance the interests of Australia and Australians internationally, by enhancing Australia's security; contributing to growth in the economy, employment and standard of living; assisting Australian travellers and Australians overseas; by strengthening global cooperation; fostering public understanding of Australia's foreign and trade policy and projecting a positive image of Australia internationally and by efficiently managing the Commonwealth's overseas owned estate.

DFAT sponsored:

- Wang Danhong, a senior reporter at Science and Technology Daily, China
- Valeria Roman, a journalist at the daily newspaper Clarin, Argentina
- Jon Stewart, a presenter and reporter at the BBC World Service Radio, UK

- Angelo Palmones, a program host at the Radio News Patrol, Manila, Philippines
- Tomasz Rozek, a senior science writer from Warsaw, Poland
- Ramya Kannan, a special correspondent to The Hindu, India
- Tippawan Khongpraphan, a science news editor at Manager Online and Daily, Thailand

Victorian Government Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development - DIIRD

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development (<http://www.diird.vic.gov.au/>) is the Victorian Government's lead agency for economic and regional development. DIIRD's five priority objectives are: investment attraction, trade development, developing innovative industries, regional development and marketing Victoria.

DIIRD funded travel scholarships for:

- Brendan Borrell, freelance journalist, US
- Christine Dell'Amore, consumer health editor at United Press International, US
- John Bohannon, correspondent, Science International - Science Magazine, US
- Andreas von Bubnoff, freelance journalist, US
- Karen Dente, freelance journalist, US
- Boonsri Dickinson, editorial intern, DISCOVER magazine, US
- Robert Frederick, National Public Radio (NPR), US
- Graeme Stemp-Morlock, freelance journalist, Canada
- Hannah Hoag, freelance journalist, Canada
- Raphaelle Derome, freelance journalist, Canada

Discovery

Discovery Channel (<http://www.discovery.com/>) is a producer and broadcaster of documentary programming. Its programs explore nature, science and technology, and adventure.

Discovery Channel partially sponsored:

- Doel Trivedy, researcher and writer with Discovery Channel Canada, based in New Delhi, India

Econnect

Econnect Communication (<http://www.econnect.com.au/>), is a Brisbane-based environmental communication consultancy.

Econnect partially sponsored:

- Marina Joubert, consultant, Southern Science and University of Pretoria, South Africa

Elsevier

Elsevier (<http://www.elsevier.com/>) is the world's leading publisher of science and health information, publishing 2,000 journals, 17,000 books; with 1,900 new books each year.

Elsevier partially sponsored:

- Ochieng Ogodo, correspondent for SciDev.Net, Kenya
- Christina Scott, correspondent for SciDev.Net, South Africa
- Batmunkh Shagdarsuren, the executive director of the Mongolian Science Journalists club, Mongolia

EuroScience Open Forum - ESOF

The EuroScience Open Forum (<http://www.esof2006.org/>) is an open platform for debate and communication for the science community of Europe and the world ESOF fosters and promotes science communication and science journalists and science communicators are key members of the ESOF community.

ESOF partially sponsored:

- Laura Garcia, journalist in the science, medicine and technology section of PERFIL newspaper, Argentina

Group of 8

The Group of 8 (<http://www.go8.edu.au>) represents Australia's leading universities. Membership of the group consists of the vice-chancellors (presidents) of: The Australian National University, Monash University, The University of Adelaide, The University of Melbourne, The University of New South Wales, The University of Queensland, The University of Sydney and The University of Western Australia.

The Group of 8 sponsored:

- T.V. Padma, correspondent for SciDevNet, India

International Development and Research Centre - IDRC

The International Development and Research Centre (<http://www.idrc.ca/>) is a Canadian Crown corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies.

The IDRC directly sponsored:

- Talent Ngwande, correspondent for SciDevNet, Zambia
- Cathy Yogo, science journalist with the daily newspaper Mutations, Yaoundé, Cameroon,
- Mélanie Robitaille, freelancer in Montréal, Canada
- Daemon Fairless, Quirks & Quarks, CBC Radio

In addition, IDRC gave substantial support to the journalists brought by the World Federation of Science Journalists.

Invest Victoria

Invest Victoria (<http://invest.vic.gov.au/>) is the Investment Promotion Agency for the State Government of Victoria. Part of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development (DIIRD), Invest Victoria provides a single entry point for international investors looking to invest or re-invest in Melbourne and provincial areas of Victoria.

Invest Victoria sponsored seven foreign correspondents based in Australia:

- Neena Bhandari, foreign correspondent for various Indian newspapers
- Maria Van Den Broek, foreign correspondent various Dutch papers
- Syed Hassan, foreign correspondent for various Middle Eastern and Pakistani papers
- Urs Walterlin, foreign correspondent, FCA president and Handelsblatt
- Lin Kuang, foreign correspondent for the New Chinese Daily
- Vera Sprothen, a German foreign correspondent

And three visiting journalists from overseas:

- Clive Cookson, from the Financial Times, UK
- Diana Cawfield, BioBusiness, Canada
- Nuala Moran a UK-based freelance biotechnology writer.

Korea Press Foundation

The Korea Press Foundation (<http://www.kpf.or.kr/>) is an integrated institute for the press and the public interest. The Korea Press Foundation offers a range of programs including a training and education program for journalists, global exchange in the journalists' community, and research on the media and press.

The Korea Press Foundation together with the conference sponsored a delegation of eight journalists:

- Seon Ah Koh, science reporter, Donga Science magazine
- Keun Young Lee, deputy director (science), Hankyoreh Shinmun (daily)
- Jae Won Shin, social policy news reporter (medical), Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation
- Young In Ahn, culture & science news division (science), Seoul Broadcasting System
- Jae Hyuk Lee, science project team producer (science), Korean Broadcasting System
- Choong Hwan Lee, science Donga reporter (science), Donga Science magazine
- Seung Min Jeon, news team reporter (IT & energy), DaeDeok Net
- Hee Won Kim, social department reporter (science), Hankuk Ilbo (daily)
- Nam Soo Song, international program coordinator, Korea Press Foundation

RIKEN

Riken (<http://www.riken.go.jp/>) is an independent administrative institution under the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Riken carries out high level experimental and research work in a wide range of fields, including physics, chemistry, medical science, biology, and engineering, covering the entire range from basic research to practical application.

Riken sponsored:

- Jia Hepeng, correspondent for SciDevNet, China

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (<http://www.unesco.org/>) is a United Nations agency. UNESCO promotes international co-operation among its member states and six associate members in the fields of education, science, culture and communication and is working to create the conditions for genuine dialogue based upon respect for shared values and the dignity of each civilisation and culture.

UNESCO partially sponsored:

- Chong Wu, journalist at the China Daily and SciDev.net correspondent, China
- Xiahua Xu, chief editor of the Science and Technology Channel for www.people.com.cn, China
- James Kimani Chege, journalist and Scidev.net correspondent, Kenya
- Wandile Kallipa, senior reporter at Channel Africa Radio, SABC, South Africa
- Marina Joubert, consultant, Southern Science and University of Pretoria, South Africa.

World Federation of Science Journalists

The World Federation of Science Journalists (<http://www.wfsj.org/>) is a non-profit, non-governmental international organization representing science and technology journalists' associations. Its members are national, regional and other international associations of science and technology journalists. The Federation's goals are to improve the quality of science reporting, promote standards and support science and technology journalists worldwide.

The World Federation sponsored:

- Fida AlJundi, vice president of the Arab Science Journalist Association, Emirates
- Wolfgang Goede, editor of PM Magazine, Germany
- Nadia El-Awady, editor – health and science and managing science editor at Islam Online.net, Egypt
- James Cornell, president of International Science Writers Association (ISWA), United States
- Deborah Blum, professor of journalism at University of Wisconsin, United States
- Kaianders Sempler, treasurer of the European Union of Science Journalism Associations and staff editor at Ny Teknik, Sweden
- Ximena Serano, president of the Colombian Asosociation of Scientific Journalism, Columbia
- Debbie Ponchner, coordinator of Aldea Global and journalist at La Nacion, Costa Rica

- Laura Guachalla, journalist at Journal EducAr, Bolivia
- William Odinga, chairperson of Uganda Science Journalists Association (USJA), Uganda
- Gervais Mbaraga, professor at University Of Yaoundé, Cameroon
- Kathryn O'Hara, associate professor at Carleton University, Canada
- Alexander Augustine, correspondent at News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Nigeria
- Jan Lublinski, freelance journalist for German Public Radio, Germany
- Julie Martineau, public relations officer at Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) Canada
- Aghan Daniel, coordinator Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture (MESH), Kenya
- Hanns Neubert, TELI, European Union of Associations of Science Journalists (EUSJA) Germany
- Godefroy Chabi, journalist ORTB radio, Benin
- Frederick Opoku, vice president Ghana Association of Science Journalists and Communicators, Ghana
- Sophie Coisne, European Union of Science Journalists' Associations, France
- Tarik Al-Abyad, Aljazeera.net, Qatar
- Albin Razafison, Madagascar
- Aimable Twahirwa, journalist and president of Rwanda Association of Scientific Journalists (RASJ), Rwanda
- Lionel Milgrom, freelance journalist Association of British Science Writers, UK
- Hujun Li, science and health reporter Southern Weekly, China
- Robin Marantz Henig, contributing writer The New York Times Magazine, US
- Mir Lutful Kabir Saadi, general secretary Bangladesh Science Writers & Journalists Forum (BSWJF), Bangladesh
- Pallava Bagla, chief correspondent South Asia and science editor for NDTV, Science magazine www.science.com and New Delhi Television www.ndtv.com, India
- Andrea Henríquez, journalist and general secretary for Chilean Association of Science Journalists, Chile

Conference Funded

The conference fully funded the board members of the World Federation of Science Journalists:

- Véronique Morin, science journalist, Canada
- Wilson da Silva, Cosmos, G magazine, Luna Media, Australia
- Mariko Takahashi, deputy editor, science news department of The Asahi Shimbun, Japan
- Diran Onifade, journalist at Nigerian Television Authority, Nigeria
- Pallab Ghosh, science reporter at BBC TV, UK
- Lisbeth Fog, Colombian Science Journalists Association, Colombia

The conference also directly sponsored:

- Daniela Hirschfeld, journalist at SciDev.net and Búsqueda, Uruguay
- Aleem Ahmed, chief editor at Monthly Global Science, Pakistan
- Paula Leighton, regional consultant for SciDev.Net, Chile
- Mahmoud Al-Dwiri, program producer and presenter Amman Net Radio (NGO), Jordan
- Sakina Mohamed, journalist from Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA), Malaysia

The conference also provided partial support to a number of other journalists.