



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Science and Technology

Options Assessment

STOA

Meeting with winner of Sustainable Energy Prize

STOA Panel meeting

Thursday, 19 January 2012, 09:30 - 11:00

Room SDM-S5, European Parliament, Strasbourg

PRESS RELEASE

The STOA Panel met today with Mr Steve Tolan, Programme Director of the Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust, Zambia, winner of the Sustainable Energy Prize, awarded by the Energy Globe Foundation, for their 'Conservation Education in Schools Programme'. The winner was selected by vote of the MEPs present in a special ceremony closing the STOA Annual Lecture 2011, dedicated to the theme 'Sustainable Management of Natural Resources'. "Sustainable management of resources needs better education and vocational training", said Dr Paul Rübzig, MEP, STOA Chairman, summarising the outcome of the full-day STOA event.

The closing session of the STOA Annual Lecture 2011 was a ceremony to mark the award of the 'Sustainable Energy Prize' by the Energy Globe Foundation. In addition to the winners of the five categories (Earth, Fire, Water, Air and Youth) selected by Energy Globe, the MEPs present at the meeting (Dr Rübzig and Mr Tabajdi) voted for the honorary winner of the World Award out of the category winners.

The MEPs decided unanimously to award the prize to the Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust for their 'Conservation Education in Schools Programme' aimed at teaching Zambian children the value of wildlife and the environment and empowering them through knowledge to improve their lives and the environment.

Chipembele is a charitable conservation education organisation working through an innovative and dynamic programme that engages local school children in a wide range of fun and inspirational lessons and activities. The main focus is on the sustainability of the wildlife and natural resources in the area, which is increasingly threatened by population pressures caused by an ever-growing population living close to the main gate of South Luangwa National Park. Chipembele aims to address these problems by educating the youth in possible solutions, whilst stretching their minds to the problems of the wider world.

The theme of the 10th STOA Annual Lecture, held on 29 November 2011 at the European Parliament in Brussels, was 'Sustainable Management of Natural Resources', one of STOA's priority areas and the subject of an ongoing STOA project supervised by Mr Csaba S. Tabajdi, MEP, responsible for the 10th Annual Lecture within the STOA Panel. The event featured such eminent keynote speakers as Koji Omi, Founder and Chairman, STS¹ *forum*, and Former Minister of Finance; Prof. Sir Harry Kroto, Florida State University, Nobel Prize for Chemistry 1996; John Anthony Allan, Professor Emeritus, King's College London, Stockholm Water Prize 2008; Peter A. Wilderer, Director, Institute for Advanced Studies on Sustainability, Technical University of Munich, Stockholm Water Prize 2003; Mathis Wackernagel, Founder and Executive Director of Global Footprint Network; Martin Parry, Visiting Professor, Centre for Environmental Policy, and Visiting Research Fellow, Grantham Institute, Imperial College London; and Thomas E. Graedel, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University.

¹ Science and Technology in Society