

JAMES DAVID FAHN

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Experience

INTERNEWS, NEW YORK, NY

2004-PRESENT

Executive Director, Earth Journalism Network

- Founder and head of non-profit project that seeks to enable journalists in the developing world to cover the environment more effectively, and promote awareness among US journalists about the importance of international environmental issues.
- Oversee all aspects of the organization, including fundraising, administration, outreach and program development, which entails working with environmental journalist networks – particularly in the developing world – through training workshops, and eventually through support for production and distribution, dispersing small grants, and developing online resources.
- Have commenced environmental journalism training in Indonesia and Mexico, and are considering other programs in China, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Madagascar.
- US component is aimed at building training programs for journalists and students at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California, a leader in environmental studies and a partner in the project.

FORD FOUNDATION, NEW YORK, NY

2002-2004

Program Associate, Community & Resource Development

- Served on grant-making team with an environment and development portfolio totaling \$15 million per year, both domestically and internationally, including programs in smart growth (regional equity), community-based natural resource management (CBNRM), and environmental justice.
- Researched projects, initiated grants and provided oversight in community-based forestry, environmental media and coastal resources, and certification of sustainable tourism.
- Coordinated the Ford Foundation's Environment and Development Affinity Group, an international network of 12-15 Ford program officers around the world.
- Edited and supervised publication of 5 learning papers on CBNRM and land rights.
- Managed consultancies researching trends in global conservation, community-based fisheries and the impacts of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

FREELANCE JOURNALIST/AUTHOR/TRAINER/CONSULTANT

1990-PRESENT

Author of *A Land on Fire* (Westview Press: Boulder, 2003), a first-hand account of Southeast Asia's environmental battles through the eyes of the people fighting them (see www.alandonfire.com). Wrote articles for *The Economist*, *Newsweek*, *World Paper*, *Phnom Penh Post*, *Jakarta Post*, and *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. Served as trainer for journalists from Burma, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand at workshops organized by the Indochina Media Memorial Foundation. Helped produce German TV documentary on water resources in Thailand.

NEWSWEEK, NEW YORK, NY

2000-2001

Reporter/Researcher, International Desk. Worked part-time for weekly news magazine, carried out editorial duties and wrote articles on Asian topics.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON, DC 2000

Analyst, Office of Global Programs. Wrote and coordinated US review of IPCC draft climate change assessment. Collaborated with funding programs for research into climate variability and human adaptation.

ITV, BANGKOK, THAILAND**1998-1999**

TV Journalist. Served as co-host, reporter and scriptwriter for weekly environmental program. Selected and researched topics, wrote and edited scripts, served as interviewer, reporter and host in Thai language.

THE NATION, BANGKOK**1990-1998***Environment Editor (1993-8)*

- Established and headed the Environment Desk, a team of 4-5 Thai reporters covering resource issues in Southeast Asia for an English-language daily newspaper
- Wrote hundreds of articles, editorials, and award-winning investigative reports on issues such as toxic dumping, illegal logging, encroachment on national parks, and forced repatriation of Burmese refugees; covered global summits, including WTO, Apec, Asia-Europe, and Kyoto
- Responsibilities included recruiting, training and assigning reporters, and editing their stories. Oversaw production of weekly Earth Focus page.
- Science and Technology Editor (1990-3). Oversaw publication of weekly eight-page section on science and technology. Responsibilities included making all editorial decisions, managing writing staff and assignments, recruiting and training, design and presentation, along with reporting and writing.
- Internet Columnist (1995-8). Wrote fortnightly column about the latest happenings in cyberspace.

Education

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY*Master of International Affairs, 2002*

Graduated with concentrations in environmental policy studies and Asian studies. GPA: 4.1

AMHERST COLLEGE, AMHERST, MA*Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, 1987*

Majored in history, physics and astronomy. Wrote honors thesis on laser spectroscopy. Founder and president of Foreign Affairs Club and a member of President's Advisory Committee on Investment in South Africa. GPA: 3.8

Appointments and Presentations

SPEAKER/RESOURCE PERSON**1990-PRESENT**

Speak on environmental and media-related issues, including presentations at the Council on Foreign Relations, Woodrow Wilson Center, Columbia University, MIT, Cal-Berkeley, Univ. of Washington, East-West Center, Chulalongkorn University, Indochina Media Memorial Foundation, Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand, Chiang Mai University and Thailand Environment Institute. Have been interviewed and quoted by *The New York Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Irish Times*, *South China Morning Post*, US public radio and the BBC's World Service.

WATSON FELLOW, EUROPE AND N. AFRICA**1987-1988**

Awarded grant by Thomas J. Watson Foundation to carry out an independent study project on "International Cooperation in Physics." Visited research sites in Europe and N. Africa, and worked at several locations including CERN (Geneva), ESTEC (a European Space Agency lab in Noordwijk, Holland) and the Niels Bohr Institute (Copenhagen). Submitted quarterly reports.

Awards and Affiliations

Received UN Environment Program's Global 500 award for *The Nation's* environmental coverage (1997); Received awards from Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn in recognition of work in service of Thailand (1992) and from the Siam Environment Club for environmental reporting (1993). Co-founder and coordinator of the Thai Society of Environmental Journalists, aimed at improving the quality, accuracy and prominence of environmental reporting in Thailand. (1995-1998).

Languages

Fluent in Thai and French; familiar in Spanish; studied Chinese and Danish.

What I do for fun

Travel to strange and exotic places; Commute to work on my bicycle through the streets and parks of Manhattan; Play pick-up soccer and ultimate frisbee; Provide a lap to my two Thai cats, Itchy and Scratchy.

Publications

James Fahn has published roughly 1,000 articles, mostly environmental news, feature and opinion pieces. Below is a short list containing some of the more important and more recent ones, many of which can be read at http://www.geocities.com/jdfahn/j_articles.html

(In production) Fahn, James, *Paying the Providers: How to make compensation for environmental services work for the rural poor*, working paper for the Ford Foundation's environment and development affinity group, to be published in 2005.

(In production) Fahn, James, *Seeking an Ocean Ethic: Everming Strategies in Improving Fisheries Management*, a report on a workshop on rights-based fisheries management in the US, to be published by the Sand County Foundation in 2005.

Fahn, James, "For Better or Worse," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan/Feb 2005.

Editor of Mann, Charles, *Diversity on the Farm: How traditional crops around the world help to feed us all, and why we should reward the people who grow them*, (Ford Foundation: New York, NY) 2004, 27 pp.

Editor of Clay, Jason, *Borrowed From the Future: Challenges and Guidelines for Community-Based Natural Resource Management*, (Ford Foundation: New York, NY) 2004, 32 pp.

Editor of Ellsworth, Lynn, *A Place in the World: A Review of the Global Debate on Tenure Security*, (Ford Foundation: New York, NY) 2004, 28 pp.

Editor of Ellsworth, Lynn and White, Andy, *Deeper Roots: Strengthening Community Tenure Security and Community Livelihoods* (Ford Foundation: New York, NY) 2004, 52 pp.

Fahn, James, "Green Hopes Turn to Despair," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 1, 2004.

Barry, D., Campbell, J.Y., Fahn, J., Mallee, H. and Pradhan, U., "Achieving Significant Impact at Scale: Reflections on the Challenge for Global Community Forestry," paper presented at the Center for International Forestry Research conference on Rural Livelihoods, Forests and Biodiversity, Bonn, 2003.

Fahn, James, *A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom* (Westview Press: Boulder, Colorado) 2003, 352 pp.

"Toxins Threaten Mekong Delta," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 26, 1999.

"Creating a Buffer for Forests," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 10, 1999.

"Shady Land Deals Threaten Coastal Wilderness," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 12, 1999.

"The Salween Under Attack Again," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan 26, 1999.

"The Future of Thai Forests," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan. 13, 1999.

"Little the World Can Do to Help Burma's Forests," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 17, 1998.

"Last Chance to Save Krabi," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 1, 1998.

"Otter-ly Charming," *The Nation* (Thailand), November 7, 1998.

"Let's Take Advantage of the Economic Crisis," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 16, 1998.

"Exploring the Underworld," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 1, 1998.

"Chemistry at Work in Bizarre Rock Formations," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 1, 1998.

" 'Release Elephants Back to the Wild' – Expert," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 14, 1998.

"No Action By Yadana Committee," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 26, 1998.

"Review Panel Attacks Assessment of Yadana Pipeline," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 18, 1998.

"Satellite Pictures Reveal 93 Hot Spots in Kalimantan," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 4, 1998.

"Activists Toy with Builders Over Pipeline," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan 21, 1998.

"Asia Looks to its Own Greenhouse," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 11, 1997.

"Who Should Manage the Parks," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 5, 1997.

"Skies Darken Over Southeast Asia: The Suharto Smog," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 23, 1997

"Hong Pong?" *The Nation* (Thailand), June 22, 1997.

"Dead in the Water," (article on Chinese white dolphins around Hong Kong), *The Nation* (Thailand), June 26, 1997

"Mai Po: Wilderness at Risk," *The Nation* (Thailand), June 22, 1997.

"Giant Clams in Rayong on Sale to Public," co-written with Pennapa Hongthong, *The Nation* (Thailand), April 25, 1997.

"Paint Chemical Induces Sex Change in Shellfish," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 4, 1997.

"Mike Chinoy: Witness to History," *The Nation* (Thailand), April 3, 1997.

"Singapore Bioprospecting: Tiny Island Nation Leads Southeast Asia in Potentially Rich Field," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 19, 1997.

"Confusion Over Property Rights Clouds Battle with Bio-Pirates," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 19, 1997.

"PTT Has Badly Mised the Public," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 24, 1997.

"George Soros: Philosopher-Capitalist Tries to Open Up Burma," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 23, 1997

"Doubts Cast Over Benefits of Kaeng Sua Ten Project," co-written with Pennapa Hongthong, *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 6, 1997.

"Logging Hampers Work at Huay Kha Khaeng," Feb 2, 1997.

"Buffer Zones Hold Key to Conservation," Feb 2, 1997.

"Buffer Zones Strategy Mooted in Effort to Protect National Parks and Sanctuaries," Jan 30, 1997.

"Proposed Treaty for Investments Assailed," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 11, 1997.

"WTO Summit: Trade-Labor Backers State Their Case," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 10, 1997.

"WTO Could Undermine Environmental Treaties," *The Nation* (Thailand), Dec 7, 1996.

"Contracts in Place for Total's Yadana Project in Burma," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 19, 1996.

"Robert Kennedy Jr: Child of the American Wilderness," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 13, 1996.

"Lawsuit Charges Firms and Slorc with Abuse," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 4, 1996

"Toxins Found in Vietnam Offshore Gas Field," *The Nation* (Thailand), Sept 13, 1996.

"Changes Needed on Draft Community Forest Bill," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 12, 1996.

"The Spirit of Disobedience", *The Nation* (Thailand), April 11, 1996

"Deadly Toxins Found Off Eastern Seaboard," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan 12, 1996.

"The Rarest of Creatures," *The Nation* (Thailand), Jan 11, 1996.

"Dammed If You Don't," *The Economist*, Nov 18, 1995.

"Over the Hills and Not So Far Away: Karenni People Will Live and Die with Their Resources," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 17, 1995

"All's Not Fair in Trade and War in Burma," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 8, 1995.

"Balancing Nature's Rights and Human Rights," *The Nation* (Thailand), May 24, 1995.

"Resistance Leader Predicts Gas Pipeline Disaster," Feb 18, 1995.

"Mon Refugees Denied Access to Rice Depot," *The Nation* (Thailand), Sept 1, 1994.

"Army Denies Mon Fleeing Rights Abuses," *The Nation* (Thailand), Aug 27, 1994.

"General Insists Mon Refugees Can't Stay," *The Nation* (Thailand), Aug 25, 1994.

"New Deadline Set for Mon to Return to Burma," *The Nation* (Thailand), Aug 20, 1994.

"Halockhani: Stuck in the Mud," *The Nation* (Thailand), Aug 17, 1994.

"Repatriated Illegals Add to Strain in Camp," Aug 13, 1994.

"Mon Hold to Safety as Deadline Passes for Return to Burma," *The Nation* (Thailand), August 13, 1994.

"Mon Refugees at Halockhani: Languishing in Limbo," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 31, 1994.

"Surprise Attack Seen as Slorc Attempt to Pressure Mon to Sign Ceasefire," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 25, 1994.

"Tanaosri Camp Refugees Given 45 Days to Go Home," *The Nation* (Thailand), May 5, 1994.

"Forced Repatriation of Burmese Refugees: Pushed to the Edge," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 23, 1994.

"Ye-Tavoy Railroad Refugees: Making Tracks," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 22, 1994.

"Thai-Burma Pipeline Raises Concer," *The Nation* (Thailand), March 11, 1994.

"Karen of Thung Yai: Law of the Jungle," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 8, 1994.

"Karen of Thung Yai: The End of Innocence," *The Nation* (Thailand), Feb 6, 1994.

"River Nan: When a Holy Alliance Works," *The Nation* (Thailand), July 11, 1993.

"Forests or Farm? The Great Eucalyptus Debate Rages On," *The Nation* (Thailand), Oct 10, 1993.

"Cambodia's Floating World," *The Nation* (Thailand), Nov 22, 1992.

"Ecology and Democracy Closely Tied," *The Nation* (Thailand), June 2, 1992.

"May Massacre: We're Not Just Another Asian Tragedy," *The Nation* (Thailand), May 24, 1992.

Speeches and Presentations

James Fahn has made dozens of public appearances as a TV host, radio analyst, moderator, speaker and panelist. Below is a list of his most recent presentations. Some radio interviews can be heard at <http://www.alandonfire.com/interviews.htm>

Radio Interview with ABC National Radio (Australia) Breakfast Show, hosted by Stephen Crittenden, Feb 8, 2005.

"Coastal Access and Equity in the Developing World," presentation made to the Surfrider Summit, Costa Mesa, California, October, 2005.

Panel Discussion on "Environmental Conservation and Indigenous Stewardship," International Funders for Indigenous Peoples annual meeting, Open Society Institute, New York, NY, May 14, 2004.

Panel Discussion on "What Makes a Good Project, What Makes Good Philanthropy," at Travelers' Philanthropy Conference, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, April 14, 2004.

"Environment and Democracy in Southeast Asia," Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California, April 8, 2004.

"Sources for Environmental Journalism," presentation (in Thai) to the Thai Society of Environmental Journalists, Nakhon Nayok, Thailand, Feb 19, 2004.

"People, the Environment and Development", Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand, Feb 18, 2004.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand, Feb 11, 2004.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Jackson School of International Relations, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, Dec 5, 2003.

"The Dangers of Development: Environmental Challenges in Southeast Asia," Council on Foreign Relations, New York, NY, Nov 18, 2003.

"Environment and Development in the Global South," Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, Oct 16, 2003.

"Supporting the Environment and Community Development Through Sustainable Tourism Certification," at the Regional Conference for the Americas on Certification of Sustainable Tourism, Costa da Sauipe, Brazil, Sept 30, 2003.

"The Sacred Dimension of Conservation", presentation at the World Parks Congress, Durban, South Africa, Sept 2003.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Washington, D.C., July 10, 2003.

Radio Interview by Jonathan Rowe on KWMR, Marin County, California, June 10, 2003.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Office of Global Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland, June 3, 2003.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California at Berkeley, May 7, 2003.

Radio Interview on Focus 580 with David Inge, WILL Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, May 7, 2003.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," Earth Island Institute, San Francisco, California, May 6, 2003.

Radio Interview by Pratap Chatterjee on *Terra Verde*, KPFA, Berkeley, California, May 9, 2003.

Radio Interview by Harry Osibin on *The Green Hour*, Live 105/KITS-FM, San Francisco, California, May 5, 2003.

"A Land on Fire: The Environmental Consequences of the Southeast Asian Boom," East Asian Institute, Columbia University, April 2003.

"Unsustainable Development in Southeast Asia?" Radio interview by Jerome McDonnell on *Worldview*, WBEZ Chicago Public Radio, Aug 27, 2002

"Tropics and Politics", School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, Feb 2000.