



Speakers' Biographies



Simone Stambach, WWF Switzerland

Simone Stambach joined WWF Switzerland in 1998 and has since then been responsible for establishing and running a buyer's network to promote credibly certified forest products on the Swiss market. She has been responsible for several consumer campaigns leading to a 70% awareness rate of the FSC-label among Swiss people. At the same time, the sales turnover of FSC-certified products increased from 0 in 2000 to CHF 300 million in 2009, generated by the WWF partner companies in Switzerland.

Simone Stambach is currently the Manager of the Global Forest and Trade Network in Switzerland, responsible for promoting sustainable market links from producer countries to Europe, one of them is the Sustainable Rattan Project.

Prior to joining WWF, Simone Stambach worked for the UN Secretariat in New York and for Swiss Television; she obtained her MA in Education from Zurich University.



Thibault Ledecq, WWF Greater Mekong

Thibault Ledecq obtained his degree in Forestry Engineering and in Water and Forest Resources in 1995 from the Faculty of Gembloux, (Agro-Bio Tech), Belgium. He started his career working as a researcher in Cameroon and later as a Natural Resource Officer in the UK.

For the past 12 years, he has been working in the South-East Asia region with UNDP, FAO, and SNV. Thibault joined WWF in 2006 where he is working as Project Manager for the sustainable rattan management and production project, covering Laos and Cambodia.

Following the positive results of this project, he helped to raise funds from the EU and IKEA, to scale-up the efforts to 100 villages in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. He is managing a team of 4-5 people in each of the three countries.



Clara Lindsten, Vietcraft

After having worked with the WWF Sustainable Rattan Project in Vietnam, Clara is now continuing to develop new designs for the handicraft sector in Vietnam at Vietcraft (Vietnam Handicraft Exporters' Association).

Clara studied Industrial Design at Lund University, Sweden. During her education, she spent one year at the Dutch Design Academy in Eindhoven and did an internship at Conceptual 5.5 Designers in Paris.

After her studies, she became part of the French avant-garde art and fashion collective Andrea Crews. She designed car jewelry for Smart Car, which was sold at the trend boutique Colette. Clara was also the creator of the So Ethic Lounge, including design of furniture, lighting, and decoration, at the fashion fair Prêt à Porter Paris 2009. The objective was to implement industrial waste as an innovative material, a subject Clara explored in her Master's thesis "Leftovers".



Burcu Tunçer, EU SWITCH-Asia Network Facility

Burcu Tunçer currently works as a Project Manager in the SWITCH-Asia Network Facility at the UNEP/Wuppertal Institute Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

She has nine years of international working experience in the area of sustainable value chains. She has worked with a number of multi-national corporations to develop management approaches for addressing environmental and social aspects within their global product chains.

At the SWITCH-Asia Network Facility, she leads small-scale projects investigating mechanisms and partnerships for effective engagement of small and medium sized enterprises and scaling-up good practices towards sustainable consumption and production.

Burcu Tunçer holds an MSc in Environmental Management and Policy from the International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics from Lund University, Sweden. She previously earned a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Bilkent University and an MSc Degree in Environmental Engineering from the Middle East Technical University in Turkey.