



Blue
Planet
Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2022

2022 BLUE PLANET PRIZE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRIZE WINNERS

This year marks the 31st awarding of the Blue Planet Prize, the international environmental award sponsored by the Asahi Glass Foundation, chaired by Takuya Shimamura. Every year, the Foundation selects two winners, individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions to the resolution of global environmental problems. The Board of Directors have selected the following 2022 Blue Planet Prize recipients.

His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan

Born in the Kingdom of Bhutan, Date of Birth: 11 November, 1955



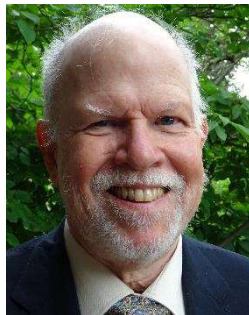
His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan, is the visionary leader who introduced the development philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH) which places the well being of the people at the heart of development activities and programmes. GNH gives importance to environmental conservation, sustainable and equitable development, and promotion of culture and social values which contribute to collective happiness. Using happiness as a social indicator was taken on by the United Nations and OECD also employed it in their reports, giving inspiration for an alternative paradigm to modern society.

Professor Stephen Carpenter (USA)

Born in the USA, Date of Birth: 5 July, 1952

Emeritus Director of the Center for Limnology,

Stephen Alfred Forbes Professor Emeritus of Integrative Biology, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Professor Stephen Carpenter has conducted research on lake ecosystems for more than 40 years. Through his research on lake eutrophication, from nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen, he studied the resilience of lakes using mathematical models, providing a new perspective on social-ecological systems. He also worked on the environmental pollution from phosphorus and nitrogen through land use, showing the critical state of the global phosphorus cycle and the need to review human activity from a broad geochemical viewpoint.

- Each recipient is presented with a certificate of merit, a commemorative trophy, and 50 million Japanese yen in prize money.
- We would like to hold the Blue Planet Prize Award Ceremony and commemorative lectures, which could well be on a smaller scale, while taking proper measures to prevent infection with the new coronavirus. The Award Ceremony is scheduled on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at Tokyo Kaikan. Commemorative lectures will be given on October 6 and 8, 2022, at the University of Tokyo and at Kyoto University, respectively.
- This press release and the photo of each recipient will be published 11 a.m. on Wednesday June 15 on the website of the Asahi Glass Foundation (www.af-info.or.jp/en).

THE ASAHI GLASS FOUNDATION

2nd Floor, Science Plaza, 5-3 Yonbancho Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0081 Japan

Tel +81-3-5275-0620 Fax +81-3-5275-0871

E-mail: post@af-info.or.jp URL: <https://www.af-info.or.jp>

Statements from the Award Recipients upon Notification of Selection

His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan

I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Asahi Glass Foundation for establishing the Blue Planet Prize to encourage and recognize efforts by committed citizens of the world to protect and restore the health of the Earth's fragile natural environment. The challenges from global warming, air pollution, contaminated water and increasing natural disasters have become so severe that corrective measures require concerted and sustained efforts by nations across the world.

Scientists and economists through their groundbreaking discoveries and research have important roles to play in promoting sustainable ways of balancing economic growth and technological progress along with environmental preservation. Political leadership and their commitment to the efforts of scientists and economists will bring us closer towards planning and taking the steps required to maintain the health of the planet we call home.

Professor Stephen Carpenter (USA)

I am challenged and humbled by the Blue Planet Prize. I deeply believe in the mission of the prize "to repair and preserve the ecosystems that keep us and the multitude of other species with whom we share the Earth alive and well". This mission is the greatest challenge of our time, and we all have much work ahead. I am humbled by the immense accomplishments of past recipients of this prestigious prize, and honored to be among them.

Food and freshwater are essential for all life. The ways we produce food have enormous effects on living systems, including freshwater and the life it supports. With the Blue Planet Prize I will continue my work to build resilience of nature in working landscapes, improve the flow and quality of freshwater, and engage science and the public in the search for transformations that support both life on Earth and human wellbeing.

Report on the Selection Process (2022 Blue Planet Prize)

Nomination forms were sent to approximately 496 nominators in Japan and 847 overseas, and by the deadline, we received a total of 173 nominations. The top three fields represented by the candidates, in order of number, were ecology (37), environmental economics and policy making (35), environmental ethics (23). The candidates represented 49 countries.

After individual evaluation of the 173 candidates by each Selection Committee member, the committee was convened to narrow down the field. The results of their deliberation were examined by the Presentation Committee. The Board of Directors formally decided to award the Prize to **His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan**, and to **Professor Stephen Carpenter**.

Laureates (1992-2022)

1992	Syukuro Manabe (USA) International Institute for Environment and Development (UK)	2008	Claude Lorius (France) José Goldemberg (Brazil)
1993	Charles D. Keeling (USA) IUCN—The World Conservation Union (headquartered in Switzerland)	2009	Hirofumi Uzawa (Japan) Nicholas Stern (UK)
1994	Eugen Seibold (Germany) Lester R. Brown (USA)	2010	James Hansen (USA) Robert Watson (UK)
1995	Bert Bolin (Sweden) Maurice F. Strong (Canada)	2011	Jane Lubchenco (USA) Barefoot College (India)
1996	Wallace S. Broecker (USA) The M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (India)	2012	William E. Rees (Canada) and Mathis Wackernagel (Switzerland) Thomas E. Lovejoy (USA)
1997	James E. Lovelock (UK) Conservation International (head-quartered in the USA)	2013	Taroh Matsuno (Japan) Daniel Sperling (USA)
1998	Mikhail I. Budyko (Russia) David R. Brower (USA)	2014	Herman Daly (USA) Daniel H. Janzen (USA) and Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad (INBio)
1999	Paul R. Ehrlich (USA) Qu Geping (China)	2015	Partha Dasgupta (UK) Jeffrey D. Sachs (USA)
2000	Theo Colborn (USA) Karl-Henrik Robèrt (Sweden)	2016	Pavan Sukhdev (India) Markus Borner (Switzerland)
2001	Robert May (Australia) Norman Myers (UK)	2017	Hans J. Schellnhuber (Germany) Gretchen C. Daily (USA)
2002	Harold A. Mooney (USA) J. Gustave Speth (USA)	2018	Brian Walker (Australia) Malin Falkenmark (Sweden)
2003	Gene E. Likens (USA) and F. Herbert Bormann (USA) Vo Quy (Vietnam)	2019	Eric Lambin (Belgium) Jared Diamond (USA)
2004	Susan Solomon (USA) Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway)	2020	David Tilman (USA) Simon Stuart (UK)
2005	Nicholas Shackleton (UK) Gordon Hisashi Sato (USA)	2021	Veerabhadran Ramanathan (USA) Mohan Munasinghe (Sri Lanka)
2006	Akira Miyawaki (Japan) Emil Salim (Indonesia)	2022	Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan Stephen Carpenter (USA)
2007	Joseph L. Sax (USA) Amory B. Lovins (USA)		

For more information, please contact: Toshihiro Tanuma, PhD

THE ASAHI GLASS FOUNDATION
2nd Floor, Science Plaza, 5-3 Yonbancho Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo 102-0081 Japan
Phone +81-3-5275-0620, Fax +81-3-5275-0871
e-mail: post@af-info.or.jp, URL: <https://www.af-info.or.jp>