

# Awards About



Participants from more than 140 countries attended the 2006 World Water Week, but those coming from Australia, Canada, China, Kenya and Sweden couldn't be blamed if they felt an added touch of pride during the week. That's because the winners of the Stockholm Water Prize, Stockholm Junior Water Prize, Stockholm Industry Water Award, Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award and World Water Week Best Poster Award came from those countries.

Stockholm was the venue for more than 100 seminars, workshops, side events and closed meetings. Still, perhaps the most memorable events for many participants will be the different celebrations honouring excellence in the water field.

# and at the Water Week

## Stockholm Water Prize

Of the many events participated in by Prof. Asit K. Biswas – the Opening Session, the SJWP ceremony, the Founders Seminar, media interviews, and more – none was more momentous than that on the evening of August 24.

A fine summer evening greeted Prof. Biswas – as did hundreds of assembled family, friends and guests – to see him accept the 16th Stockholm Water Prize from the hands of H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden. The tireless water proponent, noted for constantly challenging the “status quo,” is an Indian-born Canadian citizen and president of the Mexico City-based Third World Centre for Water Management.

At the ceremony in the Stockholm City Hall, Dr. Akissa Bahri of the independent international Nominating Committee noted that Professor Biswas has made “outstanding and multi-faceted contributions to global water resource issues, including research, education and awareness, water management, human and international relations in both developed and developing countries.”

Among the many qualified water experts in different disciplines, Prof. Biswas was heralded for sharing his broad knowledge across many fields internationally, thereby adding new dimensions to the wise use and management of the global water resources.

The Stockholm Water Prize, a global award founded in 1990 and presented annually to an individual, organisation or institution for outstanding water-related activities, is worth USD 150,000.

Following the ceremony, the Royal Banquet in the City Hall offered guests the opportunity to hear of Professor Biswas’ “dreams” during his acceptance speech. “I have a final dream that every one of the world’s citizens will live in a water secure world within my lifetime,” he said. “This is not an impossible dream but an achievable dream. If we fail, as Shakespeare has said in Julius Caesar ‘The



The Stockholm Water Prize was presented by H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria to Professor Asit K. Biswas during a ceremony at the Stockholm City Hall on Thursday, August 24.

fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves that we are underlings.”

Among the many distinguished guests to hear his wise words were those of the Founders of the Stockholm Water Prize. They include: Anglian Water, Bacardi, DuPont, Europeiska Insurance, Fujitsu Siemens Computers, General Motors, Grundfos Manage-

ment, Hewlett Packard, Hilton and Scandic, ITT Flygt, Kaupthing Bank Sverige, Kemira Kemwater, KPMG Sweden, P&G, Ragn-Sells, Scandinavian Airlines (SAS), Siemens AG, Snecma, Stockholm Water Festival, Swedish Railways (SJ), Uponor, and the Water Environment Federation, in collaboration with The City of Stockholm.

Photo: STWI