



Recipients of the Third Nakasone Yasuhiro Award

Ms. Chiaki Nakamura, MA

Award of Excellence

Born: September 26, 1958

Nationality: Japan

Occupation: Representative, Research Division
African Elephant Foundation–International (AEF-I)

Since 1989, Ms. Chiaki Nakamura has lived in Kenya's Tsavo East National Park to engage in research of the African elephant. Her research has involved not only the ecosystem but has extended to activities to gain understanding from the local residents and foster development of economic and living conditions by promoting economic self-sufficiency among the local women to. This assistance has included activity to improve water facilities to the village and efforts to improve the area lifestyle. Ms. Nakamura, together with a US university, organizes educational Eco-tours to deepen understanding of the natural ecosystem, animal protection, environmental issues, and the life of the local residents. She is energetically involved in local environmental protection efforts.

Ms. Maria Ela L. Atienza, PhD

Incentive Award

Born: January 7, 1972

Nationality: Philippines

Occupation: Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
University of the Philippines-Diliman

After the end of the Marcos administration, democracy and citizens' participation in government was stipulated in a new constitution in 1986 during the Aquino presidency. Following that, to aim for local government and regional authority, the 1991 Local Government Code was enacted. Within this context, Dr. Atienza analyzes the dynamics of health devolution in the Philippines. Using two case studies, her research looks at the framework of decentralization of the public health system in local areas, resource allocation and management, adequacy of health personnel and facilities, and citizens' participation in health service delivery. The research can be expected to provide direction for public policy in developing countries.

Ms. Yeo Lay Hwee, PhD

Incentive Award

Born: March 15, 1963

Nationality: Singapore

Occupation: Senior Research Fellow, Singapore Institute of International Affairs

With the aim of promoting global governance, and with the recognition of the importance of strengthening the political and economic ties between Asia and Europe, which were previously weaker than those between Asia and the United States and Europe and the United States, Dr. Yeo has been involved with the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) since its inception in 1996. Further, Dr. Yeo energetically teaches courses and writes academic papers to heighten understanding of Asia in Europe while also holding meetings within Southeast Asia to deepen mutual understanding. To analyze and explain issues affecting Southeast Asian countries, she serves as the coordinator of and chief editor of SEAPSNet News Analysis, a news summary service on the Singapore Institute of International Affairs website.