### **CSR ASIA SUMMIT 2011**

Asian Growth: Global Responsibility



### Asia as the engine of global sustainable growth -

#### CSR Asia Summit 2011 most diverse ever

Interest in Asian CSR is as robust as ever if the CSR Asia Summit 2011 is anything to go by. Held on 27-28 September in Kuala Lumpur, 401 delegates (consisting of CSR managers, NGOs representatives and government officials), discussed the most current CSR issues in the region. This year saw the most countries represented (74 per cent of delegates traveled to Malaysia from a record number of 32 countries and regions, up from 26 last year). See more on the delegate profile below.

Dr Richard Welford, Chairman of CSR Asia, kicked off the Summit by dubbing the era of Asia's economic rise as the "Century of the New Asian Mosaic", reflecting the diversity of the Asian growth engine that comes with an extraordinary increase in demand on societal and environmental responsibility. Companies across Asia are beginning to rise to the challenge and integrate sustainability into their growing business, while governments in the region are responding too. Dr Welford indicated climate change as the most important issue facing region.

Two key opinion leaders also added their insights at the keynote session, including Paul Hoff, Director of Business Development of the FTSE Group whose presentation was on the growth of sustainability indices and rating; and Darrel Webber, Secretary General of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, who described how the voluntary initiative helps palm oil companies reduce their negative impacts. All speakers agreed that governments have a significant role to play in pushing for tougher listing requirements, tougher laws and raising awareness.

The 2011 ASR™ findings were also announced at the afternoon session of Day 1 of the Summit. It shows that South Korean companies are still leaders in Asian ESG reporting (ex-Japan), while Chinese companies are improving and companies in the Philippines now take the bottom spot.

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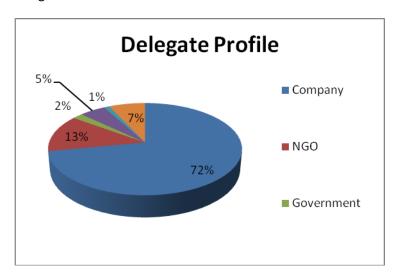


The two-day conference was packed with 60 international speakers and 28 presentations and panels addressing key subject matters in CSR, including strategic community investment, SRI funds, food security and sustainable supply chains, carbon and biodiversity issues. Live blogs are available on www.csr-asia.com

Apart from the usual panel discussions, the World Café was also held during the Summit to allow delegates to participate in small roundtable discussions to exchange ideas and opinions.

As CSR becomes more prominent in China, CSR Asia continues to work with all stakeholders to develop more effective ways of achieving objectives that will benefit business, the environment and people. In this connection, the CSR Asia Summit 2012 will take place in Beijing, China with an expected 600 delegates. For more details about CSR Asia and the Summit, please visit our website (<a href="https://www.csr-asia.com">www.csr-asia.com</a>).

#### **Delegate Profiles:**



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