



LeAF Letter

Extra edition, March 2009

With this newsletter LeAF (Lettinga Associates Foundation) aims at informing the reader on its projects, courses and other activities performed in the field of implementation of environmental protection and resource conservation technologies

Lee Kuan Yew Water prize 2009 awarded to Gatze Lettinga

We are happy to announce that Gatze Lettinga is awarded the Lee Kuan Yew Water prize 2009. The Lee Kuan Yew Water prize is an annual award for "outstanding contributions towards solving global water problems by applying groundbreaking technologies or implementing innovative policies and programmes which benefit mankind". The prize comprises a gold medallion, an award certificate and a cash prize of S\$300000. The prize is named after former Singapore Prime Minister and present Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, who has been exceptionally important for Singapore in attaining a sustainable water supply.

Gatze Lettinga receives the award for his "breakthrough, environmentally sustainable solution for the treatment of used water using anaerobic technology". The jury recognizes the revolutionary aspects of the treatment concept that enables cost-effective (pre-) treatment of wastewater, combined with the production of renewable energy, fertilizer and soil conditioner. Furthermore, the jury appreciates the fact that the technology was never patented, which makes the technology universally available. As a consequence anaerobic wastewater technology has been widely applied for both industrial and municipal wastewater.

This is the second time that the prize has been awarded. Gatze Lettinga was chosen from a total of 39 nominations from 19 different countries. He will receive the award on June 24 in the official residence and office of Singapore's president during the Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) 22-26 June 2009. In addition, Gatze Lettinga will deliver the Singapore Water Lecture on June 23.

The SIWW is a global platform for experts in different fields to discuss ongoing issues in the water world. The theme in 2009 is "Sustainable Cities – Infrastructure and technologies for Water". During this event we will organise a special session dedicated to sustainable technology development with Gatze Lettinga as honoured guest.

Gatze Lettinga was professor "Anaerobic Treatment Technology and Reuse" at the sub-department of Environmental Technology of Wageningen University from 1988 to 2001. In 1997 and together with professor Jules van Lier, he founded LeAF, of which he was board member till July 2004. Nowadays, he is still active as advisor of the board of LeAF (amongst his numerous other activities). Gatze Lettinga's achievements have been honoured by several awards. Only two years ago he received the prestigious Tyler prize for Environmental Achievements in Los Angeles, USA.



Gatze Lettinga at the Singapore Marina Barrage

For more information on the Lee Kuan Yew Water prize and the Singapore International Water Week: <http://www.siww.com.sg/>

Colophon

LeAF (Lettinga Associates Foundation) is an independent knowledge centre working on the development and implementation of sustainable environmental protection technologies with the aim of (re-)utilisation of valuable compounds in waste and wastewater and the improvement of the quality of life of people living in countries in transition. LeAF has close ties with Wageningen University and one of its aims is to bridge the gap between research and practical application. LeAF does not receive donor funding and earns its income from projects related to applied research, consultancy tasks, organisation of courses, biological tests, etc.

Twice a year LeAF will distribute this LeAF Letter amongst its clients, relations, and others interested in environmental technologies for waste and wastewater treatment.

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