

PRESS RELEASE

SBN CEO to be trained by Al Gore at the Asia Pacific Summit

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CEO of the Sustainable Business Network, Rachel Brown, has been selected from more than 2000 Australasian applicants to be trained by former US Vice President Al Gore at The Climate Project - Australia Asia Pacific Summit (A-P Summit) in Melbourne in mid-July.

Building on the work of The Climate Project – Australia, the A-P Summit will bring together 300 people – and only 8 New Zealanders - representing a diverse cross-section of industry, advocacy and broad social groupings from the Asia Pacific region. Mr Gore and a panel of international experts will provide the training hosted by the Australian Conservation Foundation.

As a delegate Ms. Brown will have the chance to help focus and re-invigorate the Asia Pacific's regional response to climate change in the lead into the critical UNCCC Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009.

"I feel honoured to have this voluntary role to be an active voice combating climate change," Ms. Brown says.

"I plan to be an advocate for this work in the important five month lead-up to the Copenhagen climate change negotiations."

Prior to this July training, only two New Zealanders have been trained presenters of the famous Al Gore slideshow: Melissa Clark Reynolds and Alan Emmerson. Now these two representatives can share the load and raise awareness as part of a team of 10.

"The A-P Summit has a specific focus on the unique window of time to act on climate change, particularly with the Copenhagen negotiations at the end of this year. Together A-P Summit delegates will inspire people from the region to make a difference at global level," said Angela Rutter, Manager of The Climate Project - Australia.

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For more information contact:

Rachel Brown Rachel@sustainable.org.nz
09 826 0394

Rachel can be available during the summit – July 11 – 13 for live interviews. In addition photos from the event will be made available.