

LEO HORN-PHATHANOTHAI

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Leo is an accomplished leader in sustainable development who has dedicated himself with creativity and impact to realizing the promise of a fairer and more sustainable world in which people and nature thrive. Leo has played an influential part in sustainable development policy and diplomacy over two decades in government, international organizations, think tanks and the non-profit sector. Over the past twelve years as a senior Director at the World Resources Institute (WRI), he helped forge transformative partnerships and raised >\$350 million in funding, helping drive WRI's rapid growth from an organization of 300 to >2,700 experts and expanding its global reach and impact to over 60 countries. Before that Leo worked as a climate expert and environmental economist at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Bank and the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID). He has a long-standing focus on China and was posted there from 2003-2009, from where he helped develop and then coordinated a pioneering partnership between the UK and China on sustainable development, launched by Prime Ministers Blair and Wen, and involving 17 government ministries/agencies.

Leo recently moved to Bangkok to focus on opportunities working with Chinese, regional and international actors to accelerate investment, innovation and policy change in the region. Additionally, he teaches, writes, serves on boards and as a strategic advisor to a small number of organizations he believes in and wants to help along their sustainability leadership journey. He is working on the 2nd edition of a textbook on "Climate Change and Development", first published in 2014, which has become a standard reference for development study graduates.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Present**
- Imperial College, Grantham Institute**
Honorary Senior Research Fellow (London, from Aug 2023)
 - Strategy613 Ltd**
President for Innovation and Sustainability (Bangkok, from Sep 2023)
 - Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences**
Member of International Scientific Advisory Committee (in approval)
 - School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London University**
Professor of Practice, Centre for Development, Environment and Policy (from Sep 2020)
 - China Dialogue Trust**
Member of the Board of Trustees (London, from Nov 2019)
 - ChangAi Children's Project**
Co-Founder and Board Director (Dehong, China, from Jan 2006)
- Sep 2011 –
Aug 2023
- World Resources Institute (WRI)**
Director, International Cooperation (2011-2018, USA)
Head, WRI UK Office (2018-2023, UK)
Director, Strategy and Partnership, Ross Centre for Sustainable Cities (2019-2023, UK)
 - Member of WRI's Management Team and the Ross Centre's Executive team
 - Raised >\$350M including \$87M in core institutional funding
 - Thought-leader on the nexus of climate and development, including key contributions and convenings that helped build consensus and lay foundations for the SDGs and Paris Climate Agreement
 - Mainstreaming equity, social inclusion and development concerns into WRI's work
 - Design and incubation of impactful partnerships and coalitions (e.g. Electric School bus Initiative, NDC Partnership, P4G)
 - Establishment of WRI's European presence, including setting up and running the UK Office

- under the Patronage of King Charles III, growing it into a vibrant office home to 60 experts
- Establishment of WRI's cities program in Africa
- Led efforts to set the cities program on course to almost double in size and budget over five years

Jul 2009 –
Jul 2011

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Climate change adviser, Strategic Advisory Unit, Regional Bureau for Africa (New York)

- Advised the Directorate and country offices on engagement with and assistance to African countries in tackling climate change
- Forged strategic partnerships with international and regional African institutions
- Advised top management on strategic engagement with China, Brazil, India in Africa, and on a new external positioning and partnership strategy
- Supported the governments of Ethiopia and Mali in establishing national climate funds
- Supported UNDP's strategic repositioning in South Africa

Jan 2007 –
Jan 2008

World Bank

Environmental Economist, World Bank China Office

- Produced ground-breaking analytical work to inform improved air quality management policies
- Contributed to a flagship report focusing on addressing long-term resource scarcity challenges

Oct 2002–
Jul 2009

UK Government Civil Service (HMG)

National Coordinator, UK-China Sustainable Development Dialogue (2007–2009)

- Developed and enhanced Sino-UK policy exchanges and technical cooperation on a wide range of technical areas, supported by strong multi-stakeholder networks
- Coordinated across nine UK government departments/ agencies to promote a strategic and coherent government-wide engagement with China on sustainable development
- Helped develop a successful model for inter-departmental working that was replicated in similar bilateral partnerships with Brazil, Mexico, South Africa and India

Environmental Economic Adviser, DFID China (2004-2006)

- Advised the DFID China programme in developing and managing the environment portfolio
- Helped establish and advance the UK-China Sustainable Development Dialogue

Seconded Expert to the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) (2003-2004)

- Developed policy options for using economic instruments for environmental management
- Policy recommendations presented to Premier Wen Jiabao and cabinet ministers

Associate Professional Officer in Environmental Economics, DFID (2002-2003)

- Analytical work on a range of environment-development issues

EDUCATION

2001-2002

University of Oxford, New College
M.Sc in Economics for Development

- Luca d'Agliano Prize (best dissertation); George Webb-Medley Prize (academic achievement)

2000-2001

University of Cambridge, Trinity Hall
Diploma in Economics

1997-2000

University of Sussex
B.A in International Relations with Development Studies (top 1st class honours)

- Primit Chaudhuri Prize (best overall performer of the year)

Languages

English, French and Mandarin: fluent (spoken, written, read); **Thai:** native; **Spanish:** level 3 (UN)