



**2018 THE LUI CHE WOO PRIZE – PRIZE FOR WORLD CIVILISATION
WELFARE BETTERMENT PRIZE
LAUREATE INTRODUCTION**



The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) with 191 Member States and Territories. It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the land and oceans, the weather and climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources.

As weather, climate and the water cycle know no national boundaries, international cooperation at a global scale is essential. WMO provides the framework for such international cooperation.

The WMO community plays a powerful role in contributing to the safety and welfare of humanity. National Meteorological and Hydrological Services work around the clock to provide vital weather and climate information worldwide. They issue early and reliable warnings of high-impact weather such as tropical cyclones, floods and heatwaves to save lives and property.

WMO promotes the development and application of user-friendly climate services such as seasonal outlooks which are of vital importance for climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and energy and water management.

WMO monitors the state of the climate and atmosphere to inform decision-makers and the public about long-term climate change as a result of greenhouse gases from human and industrial activities. It collaborates closely with other partners on air quality, environmental and health issues.

WMO marine and ocean activities foster understanding about the health of the ocean, sea level rise, as well as hazards such as storm surges.



WMO continues to facilitate free and unrestricted exchange of data and information, products and services in real- or near-real time on matters relating to safety and security of society, economic welfare and the protection of the environment. This means that high-quality observations and forecasts can be shared with all for the good of all.

The work of WMO and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services underpin the international agenda on sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation and adaptation.