



The ProSPER.Net-Scopus Young Scientist Award in Sustainable Development is given annually to young scientists or researchers, based in the Asia-Pacific region, who have made significant contributions in the area of Sustainable Development. The award is open to those researchers who completed their Ph.D. recently (within a span of 5 years) and are engaged in graduate education and research activities that emphasize sustainable development.

For 2011, awards were given in each of three areas: **ICT for Sustainable Development, Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management and Science & Technology with a Focus on Poverty Eradication.**

The three winners and six runners-up presented their research at a symposium held at the University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines, on 13 July 2011, and were honoured with awards the same day.

### **The list of winners and runners-up**

#### **CATEGORY: ICT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Winner: Arul I Chib

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Research area: ICT as a tool to support marginalized poor communities' needs, especially in health and education

First runner up: Qixin Chen

Tsinghua University, China

Research area: Power systems management and optimization with particular focus on decarbonization of the power sector

Second runner up: Sapna A. Narula

TERI University, India

Research area: Communications applied to problems in agriculture and food security in poor rural

populations in India

**CATEGORY: BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Winner: Junguo Liu

Beijing Forestry University, China

Research area: Water, ecosystem service and river restoration

First runner up: Jeff Powell

University of Western Sydney, Australia

Research Area: Biodiversity and ecosystem functioning in microbial communities

Second runner up: Hongchen Jiang

China University of Geosciences, China

Research area: Geomicrobiology and biogeochemistry in extreme environments

**CATEGORY: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WITH A FOCUS ON POVERTY ERADICATION**

Winner: Rajeev Bhat

Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia

Research area: Exploring underutilized and wild legumes as alternatives to enhance food security and self-sufficiency in developing countries

First runner up: Yunfeng Lin

Sichuan University, China

Research area: Adipose stem cells and tissue regeneration

Second runner up: Quansheng Chen

Jiangsu University, China

Research area: Application of NIR spectroscopy technique in rapid detection of agri-product quality

Winners are chosen on the basis of 3 criteria: number of citations, number and quality of publications and patents, and documented social impact. They receive a cash award and are offered a fellowship from the International Bureau of the German Ministry of Education which provides travel and living expenses to spend up to a year collaborating with any research group of the recipient's choosing in Germany.