

# INTRODUCTION TO THE VETIVER NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

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The Vetiver Network International (TVNI) is a volunteer and nonprofit NGO, which promotes the worldwide use of the Vetiver System (VS) for a sustainable environment particularly in relation to land and water.

The Vetiver System (VS), a concept integrating simple scientific principles of hydrology, soil mechanics, and similar natural processes to manage soil and water on a landscape scale. The concept excels when implemented using clones of a remarkable domesticated plant – vetiver (*Chrysopogon zizanioides*), a non fertile, noninvasive Indian clump grass cultivated for centuries for essential oil. The VS provides significant economic, environmental and social benefits. VS is now used in most tropical and semi-tropical countries, north to Italy and south to Chile. VS Technology is based on research and demonstrations through TVNI “partners,” including research institutions, development agencies, NGO's and the private sector, VS has expanded from a technology primarily for farm soil and water conservation to include major applications for:

- slope stabilization of public infrastructure (e.g., roads, railways, canals, rivers, construction);
- prevention and treatment of contaminated domestic and industrial waste water;
- reclamation of toxic mine-tailings and polluted industrial land;
- disaster mitigation (e.g., stabilizing potential landslide sites, dikes and levees, dampening wind scour, and area protection against flooding);
- soil improvement, wetland and marginal land restoration, and crop pest control;
- renewable natural fiber for handicraft production, mulch, and thatch,

TVNI has the following structure:

**Patron:** HRH Princess **Maha Chakri Sirindhorn (Thailand)**

**Chairman:** Dick Grimshaw, OBE

**President:** Dale Rachmeler

**Secretary:** Mark Dafforn

**Treasurer:** Dick Grimshaw

**Board of Directors:**

John Greenfield (New Zealand)

Criss Juliard (Moroco)

Roley Noffke (South Africa)

Elise Pinnars (Kenya)

James Smyle (USA)

Sumet Tantivejkul (Thailand)

Paul Truong (Australia)

Monty Yuleman (USA)

Paul Zuckerman (UK)

**Associate Directors:**

Joachim Boehnert (Bolivia)

Alberto Rodriguez (Puerto Rico)

Cameron Smeal (Australia)

Mary Wilkowski (USA, Hawaii)

TVNI is a volunteer organization and all its officials do not received any payment from the organization. TNVI receives its funding supports from various Foundations, Government grants and individual.

The following is the list of coordinators representing TVNI at global, regional and national levels:

**Global Coordinator: Dick Grimshaw (USA)**

*USA:* Dick Grimshaw

**Inter American Coordinator: James Smyle (USA)**

**Latin America: Oscar Rodriguez (Venezuela)**

*Brazil:* Fernando Costa

*Chile:* Carolina Rivas

*Colombia:* Octavio Torres Jiménez

*Costa Rica:* Yorleny Cruz

*El Salvador:* Ronaldo Chávez

*Honduras:* Jorge Lainez

*Guatemala:* Inés Ayau

*Panamá:* Ángel Carril González

*Peru:* Julio Alegre

*Puerto Rico:* Alberto Rodriguez

*Venezuela:* Gerardo Yépez

**Asia and Oceania Coordinator: Paul Truong (Australia)**

**Pacific Rim: Narong Chomchalow (Thailand)**

*Australia:* Paul Truong

*Brunei:* Judy Abdullah

*China:* Liyi Xu

*Cambodia:* Tuon Van

*India:* P.Haridas

***Eastern India:*** Shantanoo Bhattacharyya

***Guam:*** Mohammad Golabi

***Indonesia:*** David Booth

***Malaysia:*** Udaya Kumar

***New Zealand:*** Don Miler

***Philippines:*** Noah Manarang

***Samoa:*** Walter Vermullen

***Taiwan:*** Yue-Wen Wang

***Thailand:*** Weerachai Nanakorn

***Tonga:*** Siosiu Halavatau

***Vanuatu:*** Henry Kathecau

***Vietnam:*** Van Tran

**Sub Sahara Coordinator:** Dale Rachmeler (Ghana)

***Senegal:*** Tony Cisse

***Congo DRC:*** Alain Ndonga

**East Africa:** Elise Pinner (Kenya)

***Ethiopia:*** Debela Dinka

***Kenya:*** James Owino

***Madagascar:*** Yoann Coppin

**North Africa and Mediterranean Coordinator:** Criss Juliard (Morocco)

***Italy:*** Marco Forti

***Morocco:*** Nabil El Chouk

***Portugal:*** Mike Pease