

What is a physicist doing in the jungle? Biomimetics of the rainforest

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Having lived and worked in South East Asia for several years now, the European physics professor Ille C. Gebeshuber has broadened her horizon by getting to know and understand completely new ways of thinking, doing research, and dealing with problems. On rainforest expeditions with her PhD students from Europe and Malaysia from fields such as economics, engineering, biology, the veterinary sciences, physics and the applied as well as the fine arts and collaborators from around the globe she has established an interdisciplinary sound basis to unveil the unique wisdom and potential of the largest sustainable system we know, living nature, and what we can learn from it regarding successful addressing of major global challenges such as climate change and sustainable development, major changes in biodiversity, supply with clean water for everybody and health problems due to resistant microorganisms. New ways of teaching, of disseminating and accessing knowledge, of doing engineering and shaping our approaches towards a better, healthy and good way of living, that would not compromise future generations, are the focus of her research. Her work is based on biomimetics and a deep understanding of trends and developments.

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All papers can be downloaded in PDF format from http://www.iap.tuwien.ac.at/~gebeshuber/CV_ICG.HTML