



Flamingos and wind in the Dominican Republic, by Marvin des Cid (Americas winner, Global Wind Day photo competition)

# What happened this year on Global Wind Day?

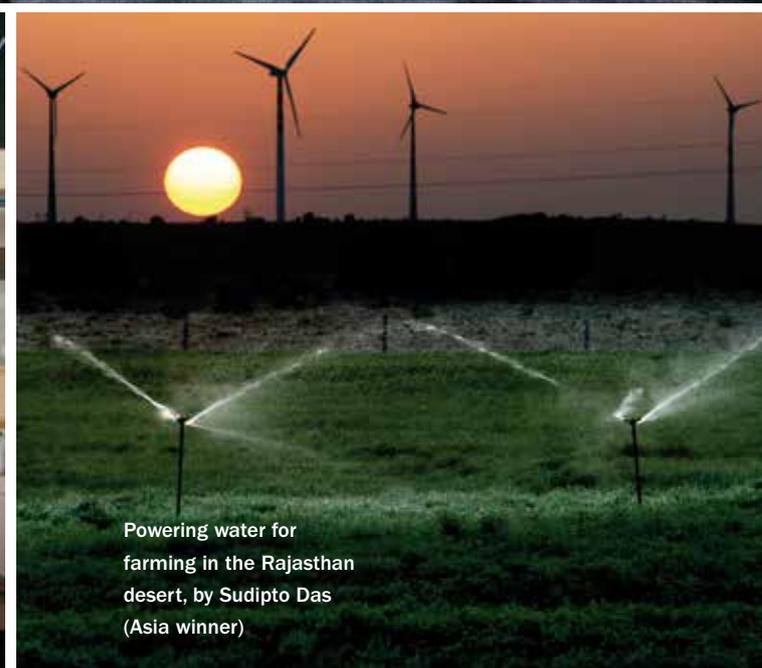
By Jessica Anania



A wind farm in Victoria, by Patrick Finnegan (Australasia winner)



Balancing rotor discs in Kenya, by Tom Gilks (Africa winner)



Powering water for farming in the Rajasthan desert, by Sudipto Das (Asia winner)



Building a wind turbine in Canada, by Joan Sullivan (global winner)



At the top of a turbine, by Mihalis Konstandinidis (Europe winner)

**Worldwide, people gathered on and around 15 June to learn about and celebrate the reality and potential of wind energy. The day marked a time for both wind energy novices and enthusiasts to visit a wind turbine, learn about the environmental and economic benefits of wind energy, or just experience the power of wind by flying a kite or sailing a boat. Jessica Anania provides a summary of everything that went on.**

#### Events around the world

- 200 events were held globally
- Five continents were involved – Europe, Asia, the Americas, Africa, Australasia
- Events were organised in 32 countries

#### Virtual action

This year, wind energy supporters had the opportunity to call on the world's eight most powerful leaders – the G8 – to phase out fossil fuel subsidies and switch to renewables through the Global Wind Day app. The campaign proved so successful it resulted in an official response from the UK and Canadian governments.

- 32,000 'Likes' for the Global Wind Day Facebook page, including 21,663 new 'Likes'
- 2,124 wake-up calls via email, Twitter and Facebook from 115 different countries
- Over 300 #GlobalWindDay mentions on Twitter in June, including from WWF, Greenpeace and the UN

#### Friends

Global Wind Day is coordinated by EWEA and the Global Wind Energy Council with the support of many individuals and groups. In 2013 these included:

- Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- The Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU.
- 61 different partners, the full list of whom are available on the Global Wind Day website: [www.globalwindday.org](http://www.globalwindday.org)

#### Photos

- EWEA organised a photo competition called 'Discover the stories behind wind energy'. See some of the winning photos on the opposite page and above.
- EWEA also teamed up with photographer Robert van Waarden to publish 'wind energy stories' – of ordinary people whose lives have been touched by wind energy – on the Global Wind Day website ([www.globalwindday.org](http://www.globalwindday.org)) and EWEA's blog ([www.ewea.org/blog](http://www.ewea.org/blog)). You can see a selection of these stories in the supplement to the paper version of *Wind Directions* or if you're reading the electronic version, on [www.ewea.org/wd](http://www.ewea.org/wd). ■