

James Warren Evans (Warren)

Independent Sr. Adviser, Sustainable Development and Climate Change



Warren Evans, formerly Director of Environment and Sr. Adviser for Sustainable Development at the World Bank, is an independent adviser to international organizations, governments, civil society and private sector. He currently is providing consultant advisory support on climate change strategy to the Asian Development Bank and the Climate Investment Funds. He serves on advisory boards of the Institute for Global Sustainability at Yonsei University, the Korean Green Technology Center, Hydrobee (a clean tech strat-up), and Birdlife International.

Immediately after retiring from the World Bank mid-2013, Warren organized, participated as Member-Secretary, and was lead author of an independent review of the CGIAR (formerly Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research).

From 2003 to 2013, Warren served as the World Bank's Environment Director and Sr. Adviser on Sustainable Development. During that time he led the World Bank team responsible for the establishment of the Climate Investment Funds; expanded the World Bank carbon finance business from about \$185 million to over \$2.5 billion, and initiated a number of natural resource management/biodiversity conservation initiatives including the Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) partnership. In 2011-2012 Warren supported the design of the Green Climate Fund. His final role in the World Bank was in an advisory capacity, leading a small team to consider future scenarios for development assistance and the potential roles the World Bank might play in supporting global and regional public goods, resulting in publication of a World Bank Directions in Development book, [Too Global to Fail: The World Bank at the Intersection of National and Global Public Policy in 2025](#).

Prior to joining the World Bank, Warren lived and worked in Asian developing countries including (i) assisting the (then) new Thai environment agency to establish environmental impact assessment procedures and develop capacity (USAID funded from 1978 to 1981); (ii) establishing and managing a Bangkok-based boutique environmental consulting firm which operated across Asia (1981-1987); and serving as one of the first environment/development specialists and later as the Director of Environment and Social Safeguards at the Asian Development Bank (1988-2003).