New York Festivals: Two gold medals for DW-Radio: Feature series of the programme Man and Environment receives the United Nations Award

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For the first time Deutsche Welle (DW), Germany's international broadcaster, has won the 'United Nations Award' in gold for environment programming at the 'New York Radio Festivals'. The same feature series of the English service of DW-radio won a second Gold medal at the same festival. This was announced by DW on 22 June 2001. More than 1,200 entries from 36 countries were submitted for the international competition. The United Nations Award is presented jointly by the UN Department of Public Information and the New York Festivals for outstanding achievement in radio programming which best exemplifies the ideals and goals of the United Nations. This year the jury chose the DW-Feature "Man and Environment: WWF eco-regions" as the winning entry.

Feature editors Irene Quaile-Kersken and John Hay of the DW-radio/English service are responsible for the twelve-part series that is at present broadcast monthly. It was partly produced in conjunction with the Australian broadcaster ABC Radio National. The editor responsible there is Maria Zijlstra.

The idea and concept of the series on endangered species and habitats were based on the 'Global 200 programme' of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). It introduces listeners to key eco-regions on all continents, providing an insight into the links between ecology, development and the economy. At the same time, listeners learn about the significance and the biological diversity of the approximately 200 key eco-regions selected by the WWF.