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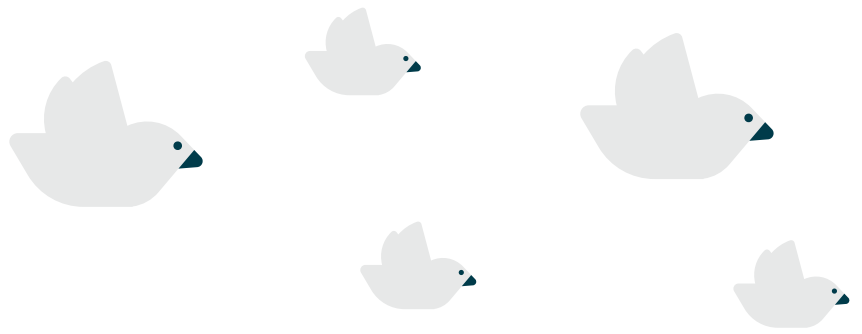
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# Green careers guide

Sherdon Uy  
Philippines



# Sherdon Uy Philippines



## What did you study?

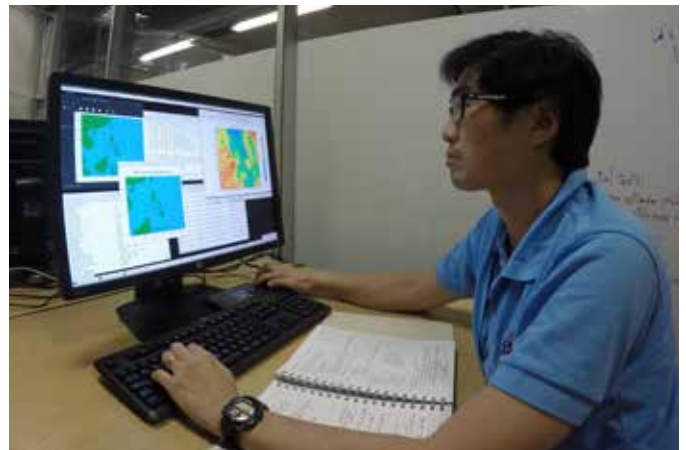
I studied for a PhD on Engineering where my research focused on offshore wind resource assessment. The aim of the research is to develop a method that can determine the potential locations for offshore wind farm projects in developing countries. The capability to properly determine the available renewable energy sources would ensure successful project development and encourage future investments on sustainable technology for power generation.

## What inspired you to study your subject at university and to work in the green industries?

I was inspired by my mentors in the Philippines who were engaged in climate studies and air quality research. Through them, I learned that the current state of human activities have an immense environmental impact. Thus, I decided that I should focus on renewable energy research because our present energy source is the primary cause of the adverse effects that modern society does to the environment.

## Why does climate change matter?

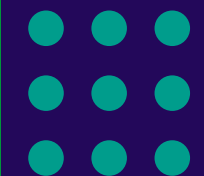
The impending change to the world's climate will affect all life on the planet and all sectors of human society. Certain plant and animal species are already being forced to seek new areas as their natural habitat are gradually disappearing because of climate change. Marginalised communities are the first people to experience the negative impact of a changing climate because their livelihood and way of life are very close to nature. However, the effects of climate change are becoming apparent because of the frequency of extreme weather events such as



droughts that causes wildfires or failing crop production and powerful storms that put lives in danger. These events put a strain to the resources such as food supply and infrastructure so, the negative effects of climate change are upon us.

## How did your studies help you get into the career you're in today?

Offshore wind energy is only beginning to be accepted as a viable renewable energy source. However, there is still much to be learned about the technology so there are many active research on the field to further develop it. My studies allowed me to participate in contributing new knowledge to the field of offshore wind energy because the UK is one of the leading nations who develops offshore wind farms. The opportunity of doing my PhD in the UK has enabled me to work with leading experts on the field and has allowed me to develop a career in renewable energy.





## What other experiences and support have you had along the way?

I have been very fortunate to be granted a scholarship through the Newton-Agham Programme. This is a cooperative effort of the Department of Science and Technology in the Philippines and the British Council to foster research partnerships between the UK and the Philippines. One of the priorities for the programme is to engage the participants in developing technology that are sustainable. During that period when I was studying in the UK, I was able to work with experts and colleagues who generously shared their knowledge on wind energy technology. This made me realise that there is a thriving community who are determined to enable the technological shift for the energy sector. It is a source of motivation to develop solutions that will transform the energy sector to adopt sustainable methods for power production.

## What do you do now – what does your role involve?

I am now involved in the operations of automated weather stations which will be used for climate research and energy meteorology. I am working on the data analysis of weather data so that it will

be utilisable for weather forecasting. The work also includes data processing of weather observations so that a renewable energy resource assessment can be done for the Philippines that is focused on analysing the hydro, wind, and solar energy potential of the country.

## What exciting projects have you been involved in?

I have been part of the 7 Southeast Asian Studies (7SEAS) where I participated in aerosol measurement campaigns around Palawan, Philippines. This research has contributed to understanding the atmosphere in the tropics and the transport of aerosols in the region. The experience of taking measurements in the sea influenced me to pursue the research on offshore wind energy.

## Do you have any tips for people looking to pursue a career in your sector?

In research, follow your interests to sustain the drive to seek for solutions that will allow the complete transition of the energy sector to renewable sources. You will also find many colleagues who share your vision and it is ideal to collaborate with them in order to develop innovative solutions.

