



The Climate Connection

Join the global climate conversation

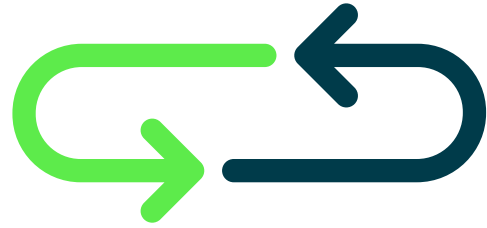
Discover. Share. Act.
www.britishcouncil.org/climate-connection
#TheClimateConnection

Green careers guide

I Dewa Gde Sathya Deva
Indonesia



I Dewa Gde Sathya Deva Indonesia



What did you study?

I studied a master's degree in public health at Imperial College London in 2016 with full support from Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education.

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

I could say that my master's degree and what I am doing now is not causally related.

I was studying the biology of the microorganisms during my bachelor's degree and interested in medical microbiology at the last semesters. It was fascinating to know how these tiny existences cause diseases. Beyond my thoughts, the pathogen could threaten the country's sovereignty. The pathogens destroy our biology at an individual level, but they threaten our society, politics and economy at a population level. That background had made me want to study Public Health.

After I graduated and worked for a while, I got an offer to manage Rumah Kompos Padangtegal. It is municipal solid waste management at the village level but has a big vision more than an MSWM. That was one of the main reasons of me joining Rumah Kompos Padangtegal. Here I have learned a lot and more passionate about the environment. I can relate what I studied during my bachelor and master's degree. Being introduced to compost that is not specifically a fertilizer, it is an organic matter filled with diverse microorganisms, makes me explore more about soil. More I found that soil is actually "living" and drive the nature cycle. The soil can help us to combat climate change. When we have good living soil, we will have an abundance of

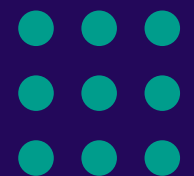


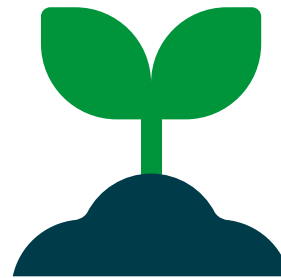
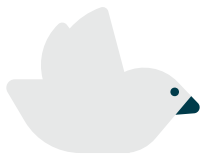
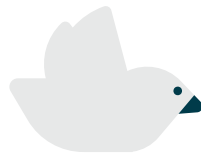
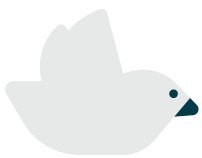
biodiversity and can produce food that makes us healthy. Further, I explore, I found more about regenerative farming, agroforestry, and practices of agriculture in harmony with nature.

Why does climate change matter?

From what I know, climate change is a natural process. It is a normal phenomenon and part of the evolution of the Earth and creatures who live in it. However, human activity since the industrial revolution has sped up the process as we emit a lot of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Therefore, the cycle becomes unnatural. The glaciers are melting significantly, and the sea is more acidic compared to the time before the industrial revolution. The environment degrades rapidly. The creatures on the Earth may have no time to adapt or evolve with the condition then become extinct. In the end, the human will suffer the last.

The human with all the capability that we have should be the steward of the Mother Earth, not the destroyer.





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

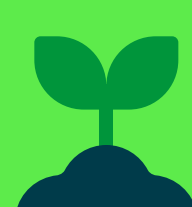
I work as the manager at Rumah Kompos Padangtegal. It is a municipal solid waste management facility owned by Padangtegal village at Ubud, Bali. Our operations include collecting separated waste from our customer only at Padangtegal village and process the waste at our facility so that we can help to reduce the landfill burden in Gianyar regency. We process organic waste into compost and do further separation of recyclable non-organic waste to distributed to the third party. Besides that, we also present our facility as a learning centre where people can watch and learn at our mini cinema and look our daily operation from how waste being collected and recycled until its final product in particular compost used at our food garden.

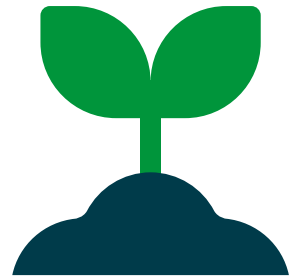
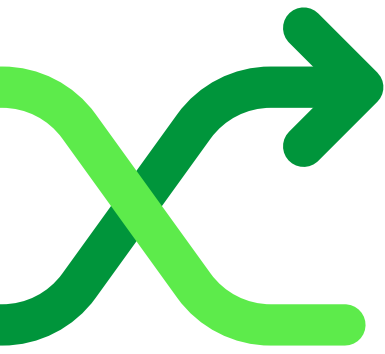
What exciting projects have you been involved in?

My team at Rumah Kompos and I cultivate almost 2 hectares land, owned by the Padangtegal village, with sweet potato since June 2020. We do it organic cultivation without any chemical on the land that previously used to plant paddy with conventional practices (using herbicide, pesticide and inorganic fertilizer). This December, we are doing our first harvest. The yield is not satisfying yet as we predicted as making the soil alive is our priority. The difference that I notice is the presence of abundance dragonfly and more life on the soil at the cultivation area. Next cultivation, we experiment with applying harvest leftover onsite as a compost, mulching to suppress weeds and selecting the best seeds from previous cultivation. Those little changes bring hope. I learn a lot which I enjoy the most during the process of regenerative farming.



I also have just become an intern at Astungkara Way, a localization movement-building healthier soil and ecosystem by reconnecting humans with nature and the source of the food that established in June 2020. Astungkara Way wants to bring Balinese youth back into the lands, build regenerative farming learning centres (RFCs) and connect them. I involve in their project on agroforestry and regenerative rice farming with other team members that mostly Balinese youth.





Griya Luhur, a local social enterprise working on the issue about community waste management, is where I involve supporting the establishment of community-based Waste Bank. We do socialization from village to village and accompany the villages around Gianyar regency that start to aware about the importance of waste management and implement Waste Bank. Griya Luhur also introduces the digital system where the amount of deposited waste being recorded and rated to evaluate the separation level.

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

We must believe that working in the green industry is not only for ourselves but also for the environment in which we live. In the future, all sectors move towards pro-environment governance. When taking a career at the green industry, for instance, waste management facility, we should think more than ourselves, be motivated with that and enjoy the process of reconnecting with nature.

