

ALUMNI

Spotlight

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

◆ **Hawwa Nashfa**

B21



FROM ISLAND CHALLENGES TO CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY

ESG MANAGER, THULE GROUP

MALMÖ, SWEDEN

Thule Group»

◆ **Hun-Yang Soon**

B8



**WASTING NO RESOURCES:
CLIMATE CHALLENGES TURNED
INTO BUSINESS SOLUTIONS**

CEO, ECO-IDEAL CONSULTING

KUALA LUMPUR
MALAYSIA



◆ **Meiling Su**

B17-6



FROM GLOBAL MARKETS TO SUSTAINABLE BANKING

RELATIONSHIP MANAGER
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK

ABIDJAN, CÔTE D'IVOIRE



↓ READ MORE ABOUT THE ALUMNI'S INSIGHTS

Hawwa Nashfa

B21

Which environmental problems/solutions deserve more attention? *Why?*

On a personal level, **funding for climate adaptation solutions for low-lying, small island states is a high priority and deserves more attention.** The threat from rising seas is more real and imminent to a country like Maldives which is only 1.5 meters above sea level. We are experiencing more severe storm surges and flooding and we cannot defend ourselves without hard infrastructure. We get a lot of project proposals from international organizations to do feasibility studies and analysis but rarely the funding to do actual infrastructure projects that can help us to adapt. Small islands are not only beautiful holiday destinations, but our oceans are also hotspots for biodiversity and have a massive capacity to absorb CO₂. Protecting our islands from flooding is a win-win for the world's climate and biodiversity, while also safeguarding unique cultural heritage.

From a global perspective, I think we all need to **take more consideration of the conflicts that are happening around the world** and think about how we are contributing to that. Decarbonization in one part of the world can contribute to human rights abuses in another part. At the end of the day we are all affected by global events, and as sustainability is intersectional we need to be mindful of our consumption choices and push businesses to do their due diligence so that we are not contributing to adverse effects either to the environment or to society, whether it's in our own backyard or someone else's.

Unforgettable travel experience?

Riding Icelandic horses in Iceland!

**EMP Graduate 2016**

ESG Manager, Thule Group



Malmö, Sweden

How does the work you currently do relate to the EMP programme?

My current work is very much tied to what we studied at EMP on **corporate environmental management, business strategies, circular economy** and so on. I use the topics I studied in the EMP programme in my work routinely, whether it is related to understanding and applying environmental policies and regulations, site environmental management, or corporate sustainability governance. So it is wonderful that we got such hands-on practical and educational experience.



Hun-Yang Soon

What do you enjoy most and least about your current job?

The most enjoyable part of my job is to **work out interesting solutions with clients to turn their environmental problems into potential financial opportunities** while solving global problems such as climate change, waste management and so on. The least enjoyable is probably the long work hours and sometimes difficult clients who are hard to satisfy.

How does your current work relate to the EMP programme?

Interestingly, my current work revolves around the teaching topics of the EMP programme, even to this day. For example, we are currently working on enabling conditions for the implementation of **Extended Producer Responsibilities (EPR)** in different countries together with our former professor Thomas Lindhqvist and other IIIEE alumni such as Zinaida, Panate and Pranshu. The opportunity to collaborate beyond IIIEE is a great pleasure. In addition to EPR, we are also working on various aspects of **environmental economic instruments** which I definitely got inspired by from my learning in Lund.

B8

**EMP Graduate 2003**

CEO of Eco-Ideal Consulting



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Unforgettable travel experience in Sweden/EU?

I got the chance to travel through Sweden and different countries in the EU. One of the most unforgettable experiences must be the **great sauna and the cold dips in the North Sea or Finnish lakes!** The sauna brings people and mind together – not something that can be easily done in tropical countries like Malaysia.



Meiling Su

B17-
6**MESPOM Graduate 2012**Relationship Manager,
Standard Chartered Bank

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

What do you enjoy most and least about your job?

What I find most rewarding about working as a Relationship Manager at an international bank is the opportunity to **remain at the forefront of both local industry and economic developments**, as well as global market trends. This position demands a thorough understanding of finance, economics, corporate dynamics, banking, various industries, and sustainable development. It requires a commitment to continual learning, skill acquisition, and knowledge enhancement. The aspect I find least enjoyable is dealing with the internal system administration tasks within the organization.

What has been the most valuable learning you took from EMP for your work?

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) is a significant focus in my current role at the bank, and the knowledge and skills I acquired during my master's program have enabled me to **integrate seamlessly into the sustainable finance aspect** of my work.

In retrospect, what would you do differently if you could start the program again?

Looking back, I would have dedicated myself wholeheartedly to each course, striving to **maximize the learning experience**. Additionally, I would have **cherished the time spent with my classmates**, actively listening to and understanding them, while fostering friendships and maintaining these relationships over time.

Advice for job hunting?

Following my studies in Sweden, I began my professional journey with the UN in Switzerland, initially as an intern and later as a consultant in sustainable finance. It is crucial to engage in deep self-reflection to ascertain your interests, what you are passionate about, and the networks you need to cultivate. Proactively reaching out to professors – whose support and kindness are invaluable – and alumni, who are often eager to offer assistance, is essential. When I applied for the internship with the United Nations, an alumnus facilitated my connection with another alumnus who had previously applied to the same unit. They generously shared their experience, which proved extremely helpful. **Understanding oneself, being proactive, and ensuring visibility** are vital components of an effective job search.