



# Welcome to our blog page!

## About us

This is a blog page managed by Alek, Alson and Lawrence.

Alek Kwek is a year-one Computer Science Major. His hobby is jogging and cycling. Alek's primary interest is art, and he loves to draw in his free time.

Lawrence Lew is a year-one Business Major. He owns a coffee business, which is his love and passion. His interest is in coffee plantations and Indonesian culture.

Alson Jiang is a year-one Engineering Science Major. He is skilled in Presentations, Team Building and Public Speaking. Alson has strong leadership qualities with a passion for exploring new frontiers.

## Background of the trip

On 10th December, 2023, 19 students from Residential College 4 (RC4) at the National University of Singapore embarked on a 12-day overseas trip to Indonesia under the Southeast Asia Friendship Initiative (SFI). Our objective? To dive deep into understanding how land policies affect water governance. Our focus was on two vital Indonesian rivers: the Kali Code

in central Yogyakarta and the Kali Ciliwung in Jakarta. The students were grouped in teams and our team members for this blog are Alek, Alson and Lawrence.

Teaming up with Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), we set out a clear mission to uncover the intricate relationship between land policies and the management of water resources in Indonesia. We spent our days deeply engaged, interacting with locals, policymakers, and experts intimately familiar with the complexities of water governance.

We explored how housing policies shaped lives, observed the myriad ways water was used in these bustling towns, and dived into conversations about Normalisation and Naturalisation - ways to restore and integrate rivers into Indonesian life.

Our discussions were not just academic. They were rooted in the stories and dreams of those directly impacted by these policies. The knowledge we acquired was truly invaluable.

A massive shout-out goes to our incredible hosts, the inspiring professors, and the dedicated facilitators who made this eye-opening journey possible. We can't thank Navarun Varma, Ph.D., and the amazing minds at Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) enough for guiding us every step of the way.

This trip was not just about academic exploration. It was about envisioning a future where these lesser-known regions thrive sustainably, becoming models of harmonious coexistence with nature. As we reminisce about our experiences, we're eagerly looking forward to creating a video that captures the heart and soul of our journey.

Our team created a montage to encapsulate what we have experience during the trip.

**SFI Video Blog**



**Some snippets of the trip**















Lava Tour Merapi Yogyakarta, 14 Desember 2023



