



Julie's Bicycle

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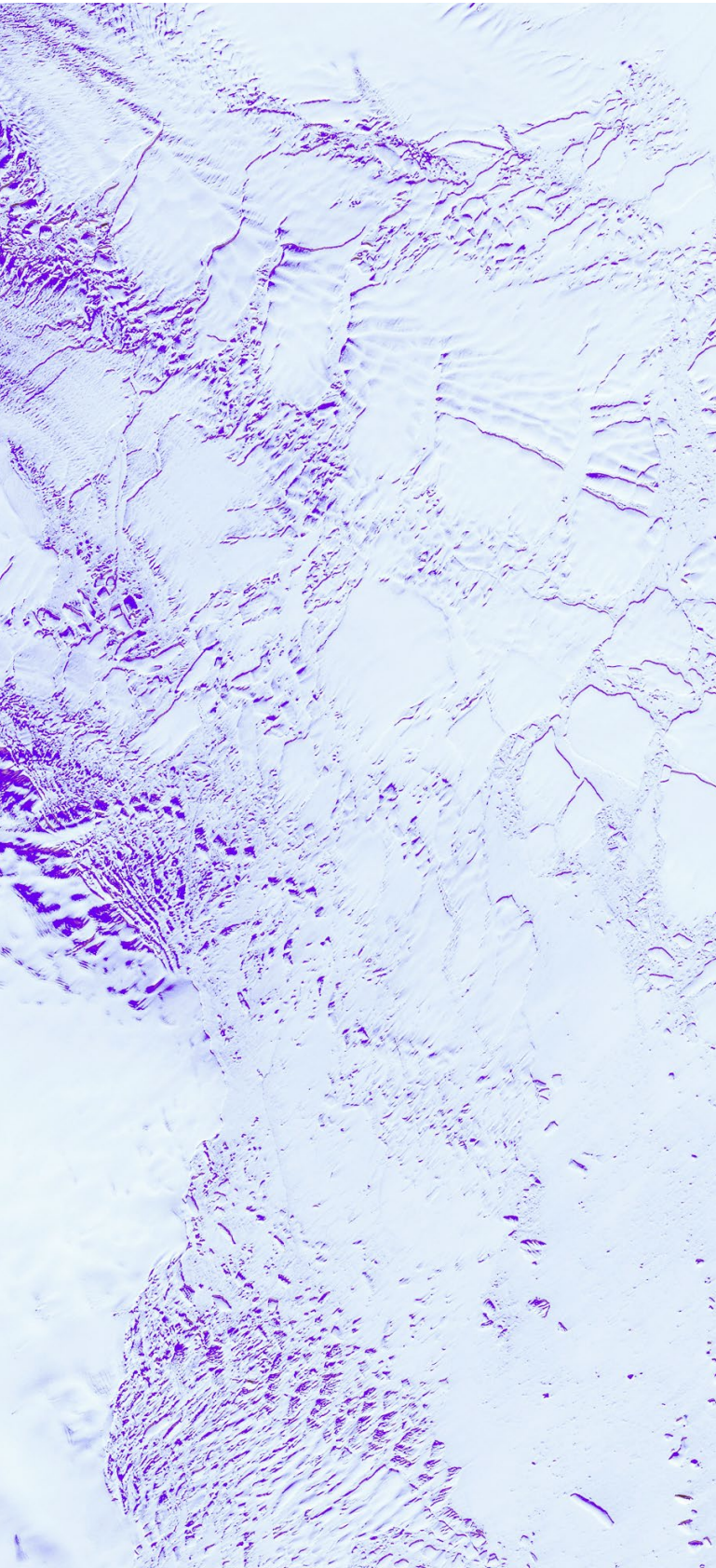
The Climate Connection

Culture and Environment Roundtable Indonesia

Outcomes and Insights Report



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Global context

The most important attempt to commit all countries in the world to tackling the climate crisis, the United Nations COP26 climate summit will host 200 heads of state, ministers and thousands of delegates, with civil society, including artists and activists, locking arms. These negotiations, taking place in Scotland, will be guided by the Sixth IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Assessment Report. The most current and comprehensive report on climate change to date, it was published, co-commissioned, and agreed by the world's 195 national governments, and shows that emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) from human activities are responsible for approximately 1.1°C of warming since 1850-1900. This has led to the unprecedented rates of global warming we are seeing today and has locked in climate-related impacts and threats for decades to come.

The IPCC authors have synthesised leading research from thousands of sources to inform effective policy decisions. They now pass the torch to the COP26 negotiating team, who have the vital job of securing ambitious climate action.

Culture and Environment Roundtables

In summer 2021, a series of digital Roundtables were held in four countries: Turkey, Indonesia, Colombia and Nigeria, with a final event in Milan during Youth4Climate and the Pre-COP 26 Summit.

The Culture and Environment Roundtables brought selected participants together from policy-makers and institutions, municipalities,

funders, youth participants, civil society organisations and cultural and arts practitioners to explore how culture, and cultural policy specifically, is responding to the climate crisis. All the Roundtables were conducted under amended Chatham House Rule.

A cross-section of cultural and environmental voices came together in real time to explore the dynamics of culture. These conversations have already created new perspectives and collaborations.

This report is not a set of minutes, nor a verbatim account; it offers glimpses into the rich conversations and presentations and makes the case that culture is the missing link in climate action.

Indonesia Roundtable

3 August 2021 – 08:00-11.00 (UK) / 14:00-17.00 (Indonesia) – Online, hosted by INSPIRIT + Julie's Bicycle for The Climate Connection

30 participants

6 speakers

1 performance

This Culture and Environment Roundtable was hosted in Indonesia and convened by UK non-profit organisation Julie's Bicycle and Indonesian organisation INSPIRIT, in partnership with The British Council as part of The Climate Connection. The Climate Connection is a global platform for dialogue, cooperation, and action against climate change, in the lead up to the United Nations climate conference, COP26. International cooperation through cultural relations is key to addressing shared development solutions.

“We need to replace the economic ‘monoculture’ model of sustainability with the ‘biodiverse’ blend of cultural, social, environmental and ancestral practices for just and sustainable economic development.”

Indonesian context

Indonesia is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. The medium-term goal of the national strategy is to reduce risks in all development sectors including agriculture, water, energy security, forestry, maritime and fisheries, health, public service, infrastructure and urban systems by 2030 (World Bank, 2021). However, Indonesia is currently one of the world's top 10 biggest emitters of greenhouse gases, which come mainly from land use, land use change and forestry. According to Nithin (2018), Indonesia has not done enough to implement policies that would enable it to meet its commitment under the Paris agreement: to cut emissions from deforestation by 29-41% below business-as-usual projections by 2030.

Culturally, the oldest traces of human art and storytelling are found in Indonesia: a 43,900-year-old cave painting adorns the walls of over 300 sites in the karst-hills of Maros-Pangkep, South Sulawesi (Smith, 2021). Traditionally, both social and environmental sustainability have been at the heart of Indonesian community life. For many Indonesian artists, the starting point for their projects' response to climate change was mostly social and not environmental. Artists want to "connect heart-to-heart and to create relationships with community" – ultimately improving the quality of life of their people. It is often foreign artists coming to Indonesia who are struck by its natural beauty and are keen to work on environmental issues. (ASEF Green Guide, 2017).

Indonesia's contribution to global climate change

Indonesia also initiated a UN resolution on the creative economy at the UN General Assembly (UNGA), entitled "International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021" which highlights the creative economy as an important tool for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In July 2021, The Ministry of Environment and Forestry submitted Indonesia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of their long-term strategy on Low Carbon and Climate Resilience 2050. In 2015 the Government of Indonesia pledged to reduce emissions from 2020-2030 by 29% (unconditional) up to 41% (conditional) against the 2030 business-as-usual scenario, an increased unconditional commitment compared to the 2010 pledge of 26%. This target remains the same, however Indonesia's updated NDC:

- Enhances ambition on adaptation.
- Enhances clarity on mitigation by adopting the Paris Agreement Rules Book (Katowice Package).
- Sets indicative pathways towards their long-term vision.
- Enhances effectiveness and efficiency in implementing the Agreement and in communicating its progress and achievement.
- Includes oceans as a new elaborated element within the adaptation.
- Seeks opportunities for having international cooperation to support the achievement of their conditional target of up to 41% compared to the business-as-usual scenario.



“The Law on Advancement of Culture is based on the cultural dynamics that are found in the community every day, from the most traditional culture to the most contemporary one, from the one that is on the brink of extinction to the one that continues to develop.”

Cultural policy in Indonesia

Ministry: Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy (MTCE/Kemenparekraf) and Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology.

Cultural Policy: Yes: Guide to the Potential of Development in the Tourism and Creative Economy Sector (2021); Strategic Plan 2020-2024 Kemenparekraf/Baparekraf

Sustainability in cultural policy: Yes

‘Culture’ in Indonesia technically falls under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, however, some cultural elements also fall under The Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy. Indonesia’s Cultural Strategy and Cultural Strategy Agenda was developed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology. This ministry developed the Cultural Advancement Law, which is seen as a way to achieve Indonesia’s aspirations of becoming a culturally civilized, economically independent and politically sovereign nation.

The Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy (MTCE/Kemenparekraf) in Indonesia identifies the country’s diverse natural resources as an opportunity through its “Potential for Creative Economy Development” programme, which also works towards improving cultural identity and social issues. The nation’s Strategic Plan 2020-2024 states environmental issues as a key current concern, and recognises that the environmental damage from tourism should not only be repaired, but also prevented. With this, the Strategic Plan aims for better disaster resilience, which stands out as a more extreme climate resilience response than most cultural ministries’ responses. This is likely because the expressed environmental concerns refer to the impacts to tourism rather than the cultural sector, with both sectors under the ministry’s administration.

The big questions

During the Roundtable, stakeholders from the intersection of culture and climate were invited to discuss current culture/climate trends, challenges and solutions.

These questions included:

- What is being done to tackle climate and environmental issues with culture?
- As arts and culture organisations, practitioners, artists, academics; what would be most helpful in working towards ecological transformation?
- How can the connections between policy-makers and the cultural sector be strengthened to develop solutions to tackle the climate crisis?

Emerging themes

Cultural systems change

Bottom-up policy dialogue urgently needed

Arts and culture related data and evidence

Strengthening community capacity

Arts and culture tackling environmental issues practically

Protection and strengthening of indigenous rights

Equal partnerships and dialogue between indigenous communities and policy communities

Cultural diversity and traditional knowledge as solutions to climate and environmental challenges

Concept of “enough” and “sufficiency” in everyday lives to challenge over-consumption

Creative innovation especially in design, fashion and tourism to support transition

Creative innovation especially in design, fashion and tourism to bolster the economy and create new employment

Collaboration, communication and digital networks to be built which support knowledge exchange and learning

Tourism understood as a net generator of value, therefore sustainability at its heart

A transparent system – openness on decisions, democratising policy, space for debate for all stakeholders

Potential of young creative people to drive solutions and narratives

Snippets and insights

Systems change

Low-carbon, circular economy activities that maintain a balanced ecosystem can be inspired by ancestral knowledge and practices, while championing cultural heritages. Policy-makers would benefit from engaging with regional artists and cultural organisers, utilising established local practices that are often materially, environmentally and economically sustainable, to co-shape greener policies for food diversity, housing, and entrepreneurship.

Bottom-up policy dialogue urgently needed

Consistently throughout the project there have been calls for policy dialogue that creates space and place for the expertise and the experience from local and creative practitioners working from the ground up to inform policy.

Digital shifts + arts and culture related data

The collection of arts and culture related data, which also includes local knowledge about the changing environment and climate, is important to implement with policy and funding. Translations into indigenous, Indonesian and English languages would encourage accessibility and preservation of such knowledge. An existing Cultural Development Index would measure the impacts of more sustainable practices in the arts and culture in alternative understandings to solely economic indicators.

A transparent forum for all stakeholders would facilitate an efficient, open and common language between artists, cultural actors and the government in each region, to share and discuss how to tackle the climate and environmental crises through arts programming and policy. Digital, online spaces were suggested, in order to offer information and funding resources, workshops, directories, and network platforms for arts and culture practitioners to share socially and environmentally positive practices and monitor policies.

Material transformative practices

Sufficiency – questions surrounding how “enough” can be embraced and championed. Making “enough” the new norm. The fashion industry can, for example, raise awareness around the overconsumption of food and clothing, and spotlight housing needs – as these are issues that reach into everyone’s lives. Cultural expression is closely related to how people manage their basic needs: how can we get the idea of sufficiency on the agenda?

Practising indigenous environmental methods

Indonesia is rich and diverse in biodiversity, cultural diversity, local wisdom and traditional knowledge. Their cultural resources are seen as a vital route towards protecting the environment and biodiversity. Amplifying the voice of indigenous people in global negotiations is a priority. Indonesia is also seeing some innovations and new collaborations coming from linking biotechnology research with traditional knowledge.

Indigenous rights and the protection of indigenous cultural practices are an important foreground in the arts and environmental conversation. While the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports indigenous peoples to participate in international forums, indigenous peoples call to be further considered as equal partners in collaborative programmes, to co-shape climate justice focused developments in the arts and cultural heritage.

Arts and culture to power shifts

Arts and culture can address environmental issues to audiences in accessible ways. While they can promote specific social and environmental campaigns, arts and culture also play a significant role in shaping wider social responsibility to protect the environment and build resilience in the movement.

Capacity building, collaboration and action

Strengthening community capacity in environmental sustainability is important in encouraging more equality in the negotiations between policy-makers and the various stakeholders in the arts and culture. Link global, local and citizens together to find solutions for innovative, adaptive and collaborative policy to uphold principles of planet, people, and transparency. Climate change cannot be approached only from a national level – a policy gap can be filled using the knowledge and experience of activists and people on the ground to see the discrepancy between big national blueprints and what is actually happening. Local people are the planet's ecological protectors.

Connection and integration within the arts

Collaboration, communication and digital networks create a bridge between different stakeholders, a common narrative and a space for open, transparent and inclusive dialogue so all parties can have a voice. A digital directory and in-person platform for open dialogue could bring government and community together, allowing for collaboration and communication on the climate.

Youth and education as innovators of social change

Innovation can be sparked by sparking human resources, creating local opportunities for people and youth inside and outside cities, and creating opportunity for entrepreneurialism in climate action. Art needs to walk the talk and can be used as a campaign model.

Young people engage with climate change and environmental issues through the arts and culture in both their educational curriculum and arts activities organised by artistic communities.

Emotion and narrative/culture *is* environment

Culture is organically born based on what people do and where they are. Modernisation impacts both culture and the environment and their health is interlinked – if the environment grows healthily then culture prospers, and vice-versa. An example of this is with natural dyes – preserving the forest that grows the dye means preserving natural dye and hence tradition and culture.

Green tourism

Developing a sustainable eco-tourism framework that meets the long-term needs of biodiversity conservation and Indigenous rights requires transparent and collaborative efforts between the public, NGOs, policy-makers and the private sector.

Green tourism offers Indonesia many opportunities to strengthen its economy, spotlight cultural and ancestral heritage, and drive artistic and entrepreneurial activities.

“We need to encourage young people’s creativity, particularly in design and innovation, to engage on climate issues in the coming generations.”

ANNEX 1 – Keynote speakers:

Rob Fenn, UK Deputy Head of Mission to Indonesia and Timor Leste spoke of aiming for COP26 to be the most inclusive yet, with the British Council's The Climate Connection programme exchanging international activities through the arts, culture and education. He also emphasised the role of youth in global efforts to adapt to climate change, and that climate change is also a cultural relations issue.

Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia spoke about the changing attitudes and practices in Indonesian tourism towards more customised, localised, and small-scale eco and rural tourism that connects with the creative economy. He outlined the Tourism Law: 1) Sustainable management of tourism destinations; 2) Economic benefits for local communities; 3) Cultural preservation, especially for indigenous peoples; 4) Visitors as active contributors to environmental conservation in any destination that they visit.

Hilmar Farid, Director-General of Culture, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, Indonesia discussed how climate and environmental issues, the circular economy and sustainable development activities are increasingly popular among the public. He focused on sustainability in terms of food diversity, clothing consumption and shelter – the basic needs of living. Hilmar Farid also talked about encouraging young people's creativity, especially in design and innovation, to engage on climate issues in the coming generations. He discussed the importance of protecting cultural expression, indigenous wisdoms and local cultures as significant ways to reduce the gap between policies at the top and grassroots levels, as well as between urban, rural and coastal demographics, where different climate and environmental impacts are felt.

Andhyta F. Utami, Think Policy Indonesia and Gita Syahrani, Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari: Climate Justice and the Role of Culture

Gita Syahrani and Andhyta F. Utami shared a conversation on how Indonesians are a part of nature. Andhyta F. Utami explained that the economic "monoculture" model of sustainability should be replaced with the "biodiverse" blend of cultural, social, environmental and ancestral practices for a just sustainable economic development. Gita Syahrani introduced Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari with its development pillars of utilising information data; encouraging accessible narratives of sustainability, and innovating social entrepreneurship among young people. She described culturally sustained local, green innovations, including locally woven natural fabrics, Siak ancestral healing recipes, Kalimantan's sustainable building practices, and the Dayak people's respectful relationship with the forests' resources.

Cindy Sandhoval, Heritage Hero: Protecting Nature by Returning to Our Roots

Cindy Sandhoval discussed how Heritage Hero engages local and young people with tangible cultural heritage in Siak, particularly in relation to the discourses on the Siak River since the colonial period. It focuses on sharing ancestral and environmental knowledge, working with other environmental communities in Siak to create a programme of activities, including gardening at Heritage Hero's traditional stilt house, group cycling to heritage sites, showcasing local music and film events, and introducing sustainable economy products.

Nova Ruth, Arka Kinari: A Voyage to Raise Our Climate Resilience and Re-engage with the Sea

Nova Ruth performed "Imbang", a song narrating the human-caused destruction of nature. She then described Arka Kinari, a cultural ship project that she initiated with her husband Filastine. Their programme of environmental advocacy activities, held wherever the ship travels, includes workshops about resilience, Loud Laut music project, and their Indonesian spice route collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. Nova Ruth concluded with an appreciation for the women-led projects featured in this session and hopes for strengthened collaborations.

ANNEX 2 – Attendees:

Attendees included the people listed below. There were other attendees who joined the discussions, for whom we do not have formal permissions for their names to be shared. We would like to thank everyone who attended for their valuable contributions.

Name	Institution	Role
Adhari Donora	Rumah Budaya Sikukeluang	Artistic Director
Andhyta Firselly Utami	Think Policy Indonesia	Environmental Economist and Co-Founder
Aristofani Fahmi	Journalist and Musician	General Secretary
Arunee Sarasetsiri	Studio Else/Magalarva	Co-Founder
Avianti Armand	Jakarta Arts Council	Member
Camelia Harahap	British Council Indonesia	Head of Arts and Creative Industries
Cindy Shandoval	Komunitas Heritage Hero	Founder
Emmanuela Shinta	Ranu Welum Foundation	Director
Farah Sofa	Ford Foundation	Program Officer
Gita Syahrani	Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari	Head of Secretariat
Gustaff H. Iskandar	Common Room Networks Foundation	Director
Hafez Gumay	Koalisi Seni	Advocacy Manager
Hikmat Darmawan	Jakarta Arts Council	Deputy Director
Hilmar Farid	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology	Director General of Culture
Ignatius Susiadi Wibowo	LabTanya	Principal Architect and Researcher
Josua P.M. Simanjuntak	Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy	Ministerial Advisor for Innovation and Creativity
Kevin Fernando Handojo	Bye Bye Plastic Bags	Team Leader
Leonardo A. A. Teguh Sambodo	Ministry of National Development Planning	Director for Industry, Tourism and Creative Economy
Lily Yulianti Farid	Rumata' Artspace	Director
Linda Hoemar Abidin	Koalisi Seni	Treasurer of the Board
Mandy Marahimin	Tanakhir Films	Film Producer
Mardiyah Chamim	Development Dialogue Asia (DDA)	Director
Nensi Dwi Ratna	Studio Tenun Ikat Alam Etingu La Hummba	Activist and Tenun Designer

Name	Institution	Role
Nova Ruth	Arka Kinari	Musician and Co-founder
Rob Fenn	Indonesia and Timor Leste	Deputy Head of Mission
Retha Dunga	Koalisi Seni	Partnership and Organizational Development Manager
Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno,	Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy	Minister
Satryo Bramono B.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Coordinator for Sustainable Development and Climate Change Kementerian
Tika Yulia Purwaningrum	Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy	Market Analyst
Tirsana Wendry Kailola	Heka Leka Foundation	Early Childhood Education Coordinator
Tita Larasati	Indonesia Creative Cities Network (ICCN)	Co-founder
Wahyu Warsita	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology	Cultural Diplomacy Program Developer
Wawan Rusiawan	Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy	Director of Strategic Studies

ANNEX 3 – About the partners:

British Council

British Council is the UK's international organisation responsible for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We connect, build understanding and trust between the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education, and the English language. Last year, we communicated face-to-face with more than 80 million people, and over 791 million people online, through our radio and TV programs and our print publications. Founded in 1934, the British Council is a charity and public organisation that has become a legal entity with the Royal Charter. Fifteen percent of our revenue is covered by the UK government.

Julie's Bicycle

Julie's Bicycle is a pioneering not-for-profit organisation mobilising the arts and culture to take action on the climate and ecological crisis. Founded by the music industry in 2007 and now working across the arts and culture, Julie's Bicycle has partnered with over 2,000 organisations in the UK and internationally. Combining cultural and environmental expertise, Julie's Bicycle focuses on high-impact programmes and policy change to meet the climate crisis head-on.

Julie's Bicycle works with cultural policy-makers to create structural change at a local, national and international level. Julie's Bicycle's freely available resources are the most comprehensive library of good environmental practice for culture anywhere, co-created with the thousands of artists, cultural workers, and creative organisations we have worked with. We exist at the heart of a thriving informal network of organisations and individuals who share our vision across the world, using our 14 years of experience to support others on their journey, and helping to catalyse new projects at the intersection of culture and climate. Find out more: www.juliesbicycle.com

INSPIRIT

Inspirasi Tanpa Batas (INSPIRIT) is a communications training and facilitation social enterprise with 20 years' experience working in the social development sector in Indonesia. We provide facilitation, training, and consulting services to individuals, teams, communities, organisations, and government institutions seeking innovative approaches to bringing about positive and sustainable social change. Our interactive learning events are designed to encourage meaningful dialogue, full participation and creative solutions. We have worked with a wide range of development actors, from the community level to the national level, with civil society organisations, government and the private sector. The subject areas we are most passionate about are the sustainable development, arts and culture, and social justice. Find out more: www.inspirasitanpabatas.org

What is the Climate Connection?

The Climate Connection is the British Council's global platform for dialogue, cooperation and action against climate change. It connects millions of people from the UK and the rest of the world through collaborative and creative solutions to the climate crisis.

Why?

International cooperation through cultural relations is key to addressing shared development solutions. By encouraging cross-sectoral, inter-generational and international collaboration, and bringing in new voices across the arts, education and English, the Climate Connection will enable more innovative, creative and sustainable solutions to our shared climate crisis. Through this approach, the Climate Connection will make climate action as inclusive as possible, by strengthening cooperation between the UK and the world, and across all parts of society, to enable everyone to contribute to a better future for our planet.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the British Council team in Indonesia and our partners at INSPIRIT, as well as the British Council's The Climate Connection team.

Thank you to all the Roundtable participants for your invaluable time and insights. We would especially like to thank the speakers and facilitators: Rob Fenn, Deputy Head of Mission to Indonesia and Timor Leste; Mr. Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy; Mr. Hilmar Farid, Director General of Culture, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology; Gita Syahrani, Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari; Andhyta F Utami, Think Policy Indonesia, Cindy Shandoval, Heritage Hero Community; Budhita Kismadi, Co-Director, INSPIRIT and Camelia Harahap, Head of Arts and Creative Industries, British Council Indonesia.

Many thanks to artist Nova Ruth for bringing life and creativity to the climate and environmental challenge. Further thanks to the captioners, translators, moderators and technical teams, particularly the INSPIRIT team for their organisation and support. Thanks to Deni Ganjar Nugraha for the visual minutes.

We would like to dedicate this report to the memory of Gunawan Maryanto – actor, director, playwright, poet, writer, performer, teacher, mentor, and friend – who believed deeply in social justice, and by example showed us how art can breakdown, breakthrough, and transcend boundaries.





The Climate Connection

Find us:

juliesbicycle.com

info@juliesbicycle.com