

Harnessing the Power of Citizen Science to Catalyse Nature Conservation

Nyein Zaw Ko | Conservation Activist & Managing Director | Nature Advocacy

Synopsis

Advances in remote sensing technology, adoption of cloud computing, built-in GPS functionality, and ubiquity of social media have all made citizen science more accessible to ordinary people. New networks and communities of interested citizen scientists from all walks of life including experts, amateur scientists, students, and educators all collaborate to promote new ideas, expand knowledge and databases, and to advance our understanding of the world around us. How can such citizen science projects catalyse even bigger impacts in the developing world where resources are scarce? In this talk, Nyein Zaw Ko will share his experience in promoting new ideas and influencing change through leading and managing citizen science projects in Myanmar and beyond. Most importantly, he will impart some practical advice on how you, as an ordinary citizen, can also actively participate in such initiatives and contribute to science.

Speaker Biography

Known as the ‘Dolphin-man’ for his highly-acclaimed public campaign to save endangered Irrawaddy dolphins in Myanmar, Nyein Zaw Ko is a distinguished Youth Conservation and Sustainability Leader from Myanmar. Originally an engineer by training, he switched his career to nature conservation by founding ‘Nature Advocacy’, a platform to raise awareness about sustainability issues, conserving natural heritages, and environmental crimes in Myanmar and beyond. In addition to saving Irrawaddy dolphins, Nyein Zaw Ko has also been involved in citizen science projects with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) - Myanmar, WWF-Singapore, and Wild Otters Research-India, leading to great impacts in the field. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he led two groups of citizen scientists remotely in two conservation research projects, funded by the University of Nottingham and the National Geographic Society, respectively.

Nyein Zaw Ko graduated from the MEM programme in 2022, and his dissertation research on human-macaque conflict in Singapore won the SHELL BEST DISSERTATION Award.



Register [here](#)
or scan QR code



19 August 2022 | 6:30pm
Online Seminar (via Zoom)

ABOUT THE MEM PROGRAMME

The Master of Science (Environmental Management) (MEM) programme is a multi-disciplinary integrated programme offered jointly by eight faculties and schools in the National University of Singapore (NUS), demonstrating its broadbased approach to education in the field of the environment. It is hosted by College of Design and Engineering (CDE).

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/mem/>