

Video Review of *SEED + SPARK: Indonesia*

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Abstract

Robin Martin offers her review and perspective on the video *SEED + SPARK: Indonesia*, executive produced by 180 Studio, in the context of this HER issue's theme: Placed-based education and the natural world.

Video Website: <https://vimeo.com/502226864>

Keywords: Seed and Spark, Bali, Green School, Indonesia

With breathtaking footage of Bali and an awe-inspiring sound mix, this video explores the stories of students, teachers and parents who arrive at The Green School, each in their own way. Most are local voices telling their stories along with one father who arrives with his family from Canada after hearing a TED Talk that matched the direction he was wanting to go with his family. Each are discovering for themselves what "social sustainability" really means, including the challenges of overcoming the local/foreign barriers that are felt on both sides.

The father from Canada starts out with wonderful ideals of the deep desire to regain a direct connection with nature. A local student puzzles over why the locals were not allowed onto the Green School campus, even sneaking into it when he was young. As the school founders and new parents begin to question how to connect more directly with the local and indigenous community in and around their school in Bali, they realize that they need to walk around the community and get to know it better. Later, they also realize they must invite the local students and families in and provide opportunities for learning together.

Step by step, this beautifully produced video shows how kids' activism gets initiated and begins to bridge the social sustainability divides. The divides were not only between locals and internationals, but also between the indigenous community and the younger generations who were not learning to appreciate the sacred places of the rice fields. Ultimately, the story culminates in a new "rice cycle course" that was inaugurated in 2016, along with life stories that came together through challenges, changes, and celebrations.

Acknowledgement

Robin Martin serves as an instructor at Southern Oregon University. She has a long-standing interest in holistic education, and most recently worked for 3 years at Roong Aroon School in Bangkok, Thailand. From 2006 to 2018, she worked with teacher training programs in universities and schools in The Sultanate of Oman, Turkey, and Malaysia.

SEED + SPARK: Indonesia is executive produced by 180 Studio, a global design studio with offices in America and Asia. They design spaces, tell stories and set strategies that advance shared understanding of the future of learning, and what it will look like and require. Leads: Sam Chaltain; Rob English; Stephanie Pace Marshall; Trung Le.