Assembly to sustainably return trash to the environment

In Indonesia, a country where sorting and proper treatment of trash is rare, how do we run the Assembly sustainably?

In 2019, Bangun P. Nugroho, a member of Jemaat Kristen Indonesia (JKI Church) Holy Stadium in Semarang, Central Java, realized that landfills are filling up fast with a mix of organic and inorganic waste. The lack of sorting and treatment releases a stench to the surrounding community. So PT ALTSA, the company he worked for, did a feasibility study into waste management, got proper licenses and in March 2020 started accepting the food and green waste from a local public university in Semarang to be treated.

“Every day, the university produces tonnes of mixed wastes, among them plastic, paper, green waste and food waste - all of which used to end up in landfills,” Bangun P. Nugroho says.

PT ALTSA started to sort them, turning the green waste - the result of plant pruning and grass cutting, into compost. Meanwhile, food and other organic waste are treated with maggots (larvae of black flies). The maggots feed on rotting food, getting rid of the stench and reducing the volume of the waste. The processed organic waste is then sifted and sold as fertilizer.

In addition, because organic waste is fertile breeding ground for maggots, excess larvae could also be sold to chicken and fish farms as high protein feed, free of antibiotics. “It is an end-to-end solution. The organic waste becomes fertilizer for the farms and food for the maggots. The maggots become a good diet for chicken and fish that we eat. And we return our food waste to the maggots,” Bangun P. Nugroho adds.

At the same that PT ALTSA was venturing into the treatment of compostable waste, the staff of the Mennonite World Conference Assembly was also looking for a partner who could help them dispose of the waste the Assembly will generate. Having found a partner for compostable dishes, the staff kept looking for different solutions for how to dispose of their compostable waste. After months of brainstorming, and having considered creating their own business, the staff heard of the work that PT ALTSA was doing, and the relationship between Bangun P. Nugroho and the Assembly staff was born.

Other than processing the waste of the university, PT ALTSA takes on multiple clients, many of them restaurants, cafeterias and hotels. Mennonite World Conference will partner with them to ensure that the waste produced by Indonesia 2022 is properly treated and returned to the ecosystem sustainably.

“All I want is for things that people throw away to be returned to the environment in a form that is acceptable to them,” Bangun P. Nugroho concludes.

Support Assembly by going to mwc-cmm.org/donate, click DONATE NOW and indicate that your donation is for Assembly.
**ASSEMBLY**

**Assembly Scattered**
Before and after Assembly Gathered; various locations in Indonesia

| 5-10 July 2022 | Assembly Gathered Salatiga & Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia Theme: Following Jesus together across barriers |

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**Assembly Gathered Program**

**July**

| 05 Tuesday (opening): following Jesus together across barriers |
| 06 Wednesday: following Jesus, learning together |
| 07 Thursday: following Jesus, living together |
| 08 Friday: following Jesus, caring together |
| 09 Saturday: following Jesus, celebrating together |
| 10 Sunday (closing): following Jesus together |

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**Latest Update on Assembly On-site**

MWC Assembly in Indonesia is welcoming 700 on-site participants with the option of additional Indonesian guests at the opening and closing services based on local government guidelines.

The Assembly will take place in Salatiga, Central Java. Lodging will be possible in the hotels at the Assembly site. Some parts of the program will be streamed from satellite locations and held online for participants to get to know more about Indonesia. Global Youth Summit (GYS) participation will be limited to a maximum of 120 participants, including official delegates from each church, and will not have a virtual component.

For more information and updates, please visit the website.

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**Online Workshops**

Assembly will be offering both on-site and online workshops where you can share and participate in a variety of different themes including creative ministry, interfaith dialogue, baptism, peace and justice and creation care.

For those who participate online, you can access the workshops through our virtual hub, where we will be holding these spaces at different times of the day to include all possible time zones.

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**Call out to local volunteers & international volunteers**

The MWC Assembly is looking for volunteers! If you are interested in being a part of the Assembly as a volunteer, whether that means helping at the Assembly, or from home, we currently have 3 areas where you could help us the most.

We are looking for volunteers that are willing to help for 4-6 hours during the day at Assembly, international or local volunteers that are willing to spend one month in Indonesia to help serve in different capacities for Assembly, and also volunteers who are able to serve with tech support, interpretation or communication from their homes.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Assembly, Follow this link!

https://t2m.io/WtS8f3HQ

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**Assembly Registration**

Are you ready to sign up for Assembly? If so, please feel free to visit our registration website for all of the information you need regarding prices, dates and the different options we are providing. At our registration website, you can register for the online event now, and the on-site registration went live on the 8 March 2022. Once you have registered for the online event, you will still have the option to change your participation to on-site.

https://t2m.io/LIk5QZqg

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**Assembly Tours: How lifelong relationships become real**

Assembly tours have something for everyone! Each afternoon visitors will have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of attractions around the host city of Salatiga. Some of the highlights include the old city of Semarang and the Banaran Coffee Plantation.

Before and after Assembly Gathered; various locations in Indonesia, Assembly Scattered will provide the opportunity for participants to visit MWC-related congregations throughout Indonesia. Being the oldest Mennonite community outside of Europe and North America, the MWC-related congregations of Indonesia offer an amazing perspective of the history of the Mennonite church in Indonesia, as well as a glimpse of the churches that are shaping its future.

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**Lawang Sewu colonial building in Semarang**

Photo: Visual Karsa

**Youth Program**

During Assembly, the youth will have a special time together where they will be able to explore biblical messages, enjoy inspiring music, play, and serve together. During the week the youth will explore the topics of learning, living, caring, celebrating and following Jesus together.

Explore the site on a regular basis and discover more exciting options as there will be tons of fun to be had!