

I am Niran Kattiparambil Renajan, a Civil Engineer with three years of experience from Kerala, India. I completed my Engineering graduation from SCMS School of Engineering & Technology, Kerala, India and scored an overall percentage of 6.1 out of 10.

Over the last three years, I have worked as a Site Supervisor at Orompurath Constructions and later as a Site Engineer at A R Consulting Engineers. From here I got the brief understanding of the construction sector.

My position as a Site Engineer allowed me to observe unpleasant conditions resulting from unsustainable construction activities. I experienced rural area deforestation and massive construction with little pollution regulation when overseeing the big project. The decline in the quality of the environment and displaced residents made me discover the necessity for sustainable policies in construction. My experience, therefore, inspires me to push for practical change in the construction sector through continued learning in Sustainable Development with an engineering background.

Throughout my career, I have observed a critical issue prevailing in the Indian construction sector — a lack of emphasis on sustainable engineering practices. This realization was underscored by rapidly rising urbanization, growing industrialization, and related activities, making India, unfortunately one of the most polluted countries in the world. As a result, most of the population of India suffers from health issues like heart diseases, asthma, and lung cancer due to the high quantity of particulate matter present in the air, assessed as $70.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - the highest in the world. The growing awareness of the detrimental impact of human actions on our planet strengthened my desire to take a master's in Sustainable Development. This will enable me to use the scientific knowledge gained through this study to help address the problems of pollution and climate change.

From my previous education and work experience, I recognize the importance of acquiring academic knowledge based on Sustainable Development, which is mandatory for fulfilling my dream. Beyond personal growth, I am motivated by a broader vision: to introduce sustainable construction systems, a concept yet to gain popularity in my home country. Looking ahead, upon completing my course, my plan is to return to India and embark on a personal venture. I aim to establish my own enterprise with a distinct focus on Sustainable Building Styles. By integrating cutting-edge environmental engineering principles into construction practices, I aspire to contribute to a more eco-conscious and resilient built environment in India.

Compared with my country's university education, the Swedish Government's motto itself attracted me: "freedom with responsibility." This kind of education system helps the individual improve their capability to think broadly rather than within academic boundaries. Moreover, Sweden is a venerable, reliable, advanced, and yet supportive society in which to learn and travel. Sweden is also high on my priority list because the majority of the population speaks fluent English.

According to research, the Uppsala University is ranked and 140th in the world for engineering courses. The Sustainable Development, curriculum helps me to improve my knowledge of environmental science as well as the management perspectives required to start a small-scale industry in my country. One of the major problems

facing second-world countries like mine is environmental pollution, so I would like to learn more about the current situation and future opportunities to implement this in my country. Sweden is considered a world leader in providing a diverse range of high-quality international education programmes and is home to some of the world's top-ranking universities. The universities in the country are well-known for their academic excellence and reputation among companies around the world and lead the way in pioneering research and development. I realise that studying here will improve my career by deepening my knowledge and can help me achieve my goal of establishing my own firm focused on sustainable building practices."

Also, the programme is also highly interlinked with the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically program includes strong focus on sustainable challenges to organizations, Sustainable Development, encourages the use of sustainable materials and construction methods and most importantly this programme emphasizes the importance of environmental impact assessment.

In 2015, all United Nation member countries pledged to 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, which is an urgent call for collaborative action by all countries to protect the planet. As we now analyse the impact caused by past actions and decisions of our predecessors, it emphasizes the social awareness of what our actions and decisions can have on future generations. The understanding that sustainability is impossible to be ignored in this current world where there are rapid changes in society, nature, and technology is a compelling factor for me to pursue this master's course. Every sustainable change, whether be it small or big, can have a long-lasting positive impact on the planet. I believe Sustainability should be the new 'mantra' for all corporations when planning any new business endeavours. The recognition that sustainability has become a necessity and is no longer considered as a mere competitive advantage is the driver for me to pursue this course.

I am looking forward to a wonderful and stimulating university experience, to be challenged and stretched, to help me achieve my dream of pursuing a career with a tangible environmental impact. I am convinced that this master's degree with the breadth of course content and the professional opportunities it provides will be instrumental to fulfilling a duty that I see towards society.