



The INEB Institute In collaboration with Ecovillage Transition Asia



## Buddhist Leadership Training Program

*Towards A New Paradigm of Spiritual Growth  
For Ecology Sustainability and Social justice*

1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

“

*Education needs to be re-envisioned to include the cultivation of wisdom, as well as learning to live in society and overcoming oppression and exploitation. For education to be more effective, it has to be dialogical, inclusive, and compassionate, and needs to heal the rift between body and mind... Buddhist education begins with humanity's ultimate questions: What is the meaning of life? What is our own deepest nature? What is our responsibility to others? Buddhism does not separate life from education.*

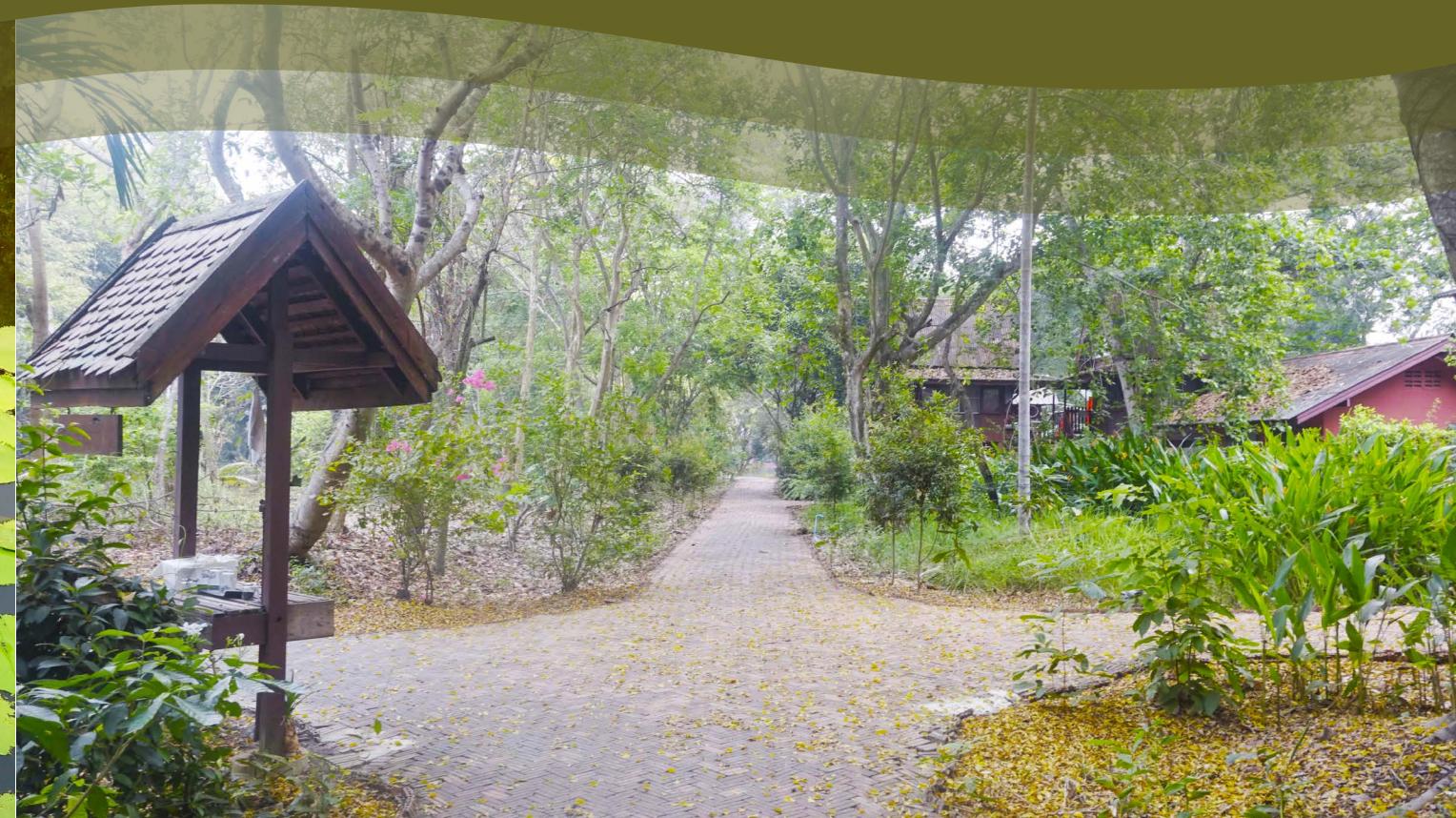
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Sulak Sivaraksa, *The Wisdom of Sustainability: Buddhist Economics for the 21st Century*

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## An Invitation

If you are a committed spiritual practitioner and want to work for social change this 6-month course is for you. It will provide a break from your busy schedule and give you space to deeply reflect upon your life, society and the state of our ecosystem and return back with energy rejuvenated, perspective broadened, skills enhanced.

If you are a leader or a deputy of a temple, monastery, church, or an Ashram, first rank or second rank leader of a non-profit organization, youth leader, or an individual who aspires for deeper spiritual growth as well as social justice and sustainability, or want to create or join an intentional community, you will benefit tremendously from this course. You do not need to be a Buddhist to enroll as long as you agree with the core Buddhist values of compassion, wisdom, contentment and non-violence.

This course is participative, contemplative, reflective and recreative:

Students will participate actively in the learning process and, together with your colleagues, contribute meaningfully to the body of knowledge within a trusted community of learning facilitated by skillful teachers/facilitators.

Students will learn to look at issues from various perspectives and develop critical and systematic thinking skills.

Students will have a chance to develop mindfulness and attention in daily life.

Although the course will be intensive by nature, there will be a focus on fun within the learning process and enough time for rest.

Spiritual practice, participatory learning, critical thinking and enjoyment will be woven together holistically during this journey of learning.

The course is designed and will be facilitated by accomplished, experienced facilitators/teachers with decades of experience teaching new paradigm leadership empowerment courses in Southeast Asia, China and UK through SEM-Spirit in Education Movement, ETA-Ecovillage Transition Asia, Gaia Education and Findhorn College.

During the course you will learn to know and love yourself, to deepen relationships with others. You will be able to analyze society and act wisely for change, while reconnecting with nature and work for sustainability. Furthermore you will be trained to unlearn and relearn to make your life and contribution relevant, meaningful, and rooted in ancient wisdom while being resilient in the present.

At the end of the course, you are expected to be a dynamic leader for change in the 21st century, ready to be invisible like air and visible like a mountain, heavy like a rock and light like cotton, cool like water and hot like fire. You will be less self-centred and more important, more confident and more humble, more trustful and more careful, committed to working for society while knowing how to take good care of yourself and others.

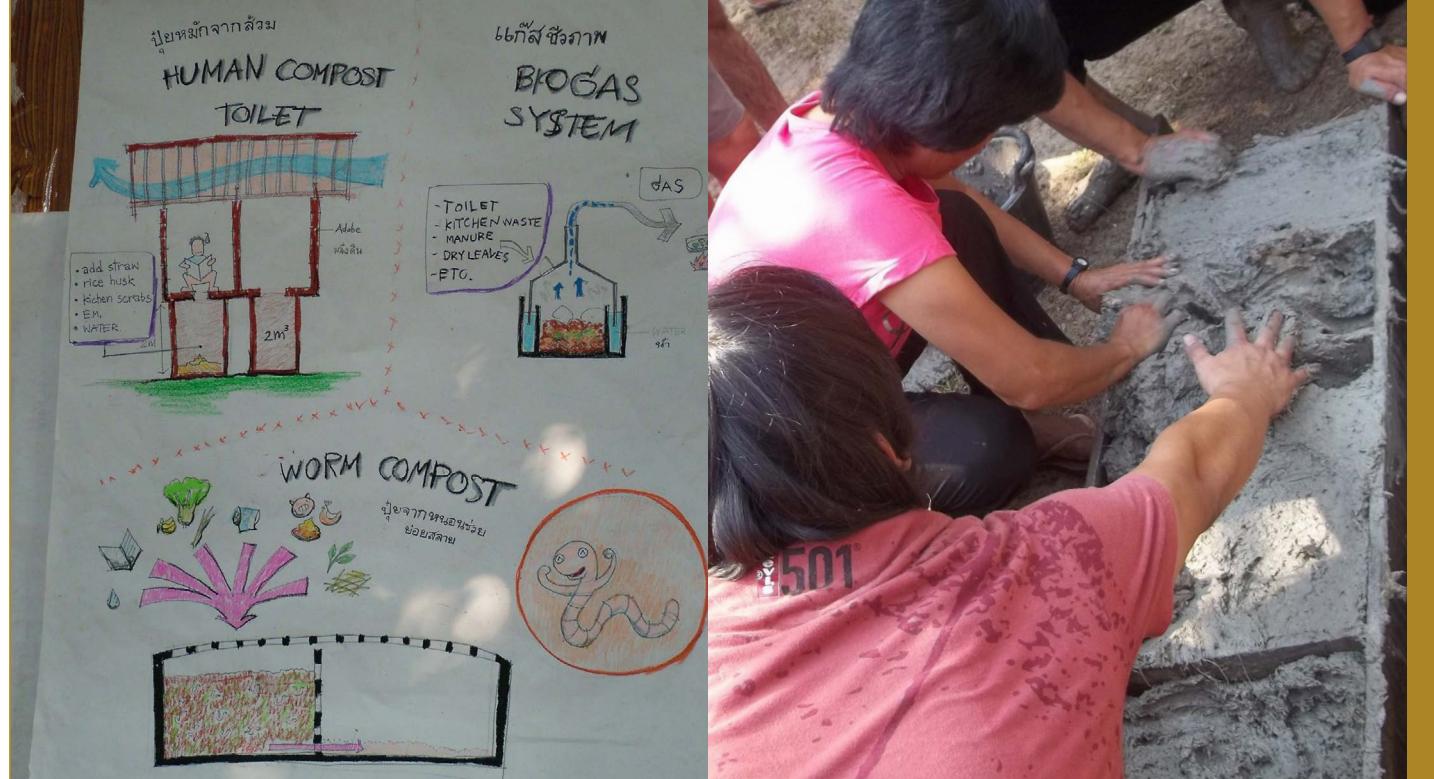
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In other words, if you are seriously committed to core Buddhist values of wisdom, compassion, contentment, non-violence, and humility, this program can enhance you with knowledge, skills and cultivating of the heart. You don't have to be a Buddhist to join as long as you agree with the core values mentioned above.



This programme is a joint venture of International Network of Engaged Buddhists & Ecovillage Transition Asia

**Supervisors:**

Sulak Sivaraksa & Lodi Gyari Rinpoche

**Programme Directors:**

Pracha Hutanuwatra & Jane Rasbash

**Coordinator:**

Supatida Siriwong (+66 83 940 1084, blt.ineb@gmail.com)

**Course Fee:**

- Full programme: \$ 12,000 USD (1<sup>st</sup> Sep 2016 -10<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017)

- First part of the Programme: Mindful Eco-leadership: \$ 6,800 USD (1<sup>st</sup> Sep - 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2016 )

- Second part of the programme: Shambala Warrior in Action: \$ 6,800 USD (12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 - 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017)

Those who pay full price will automatically support those with financial needs. Partial bursaries are available for participants who need them. Please contact coordinator.

## WHO IS THIS COURSE DESIGNED FOR?

Those people in various leadership roles within Buddhist and social-change organizations, who want to train to be a 'bodhisattva' in the contemporary world e.g. seriously aspire to awaken oneself and serve others:

- Those who have been working and or leading Buddhist organisations for some years and need a break for reflection on the nature of life and society so that they can return to work rejuvenated.
- Those who work in non-profit organisations and other social change organisations who feel the need to do more self-cultivation and deep reflection on social issues.
- Those working for social change (both Buddhists and non-buddhists) who want to be less self-centred and gain unconditional confidence in themselves and their potential for promoting positive change in the world.
- Those who want to be mindful facilitators helping people to empower themselves.
- Those who want to positively change society and themselves simultaneously for more personal growth and a more sustainable, socially just future.



## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the program we expect our participants to be trained in the following ways:

**The Heart:** Lessen self-centeredness, gain unconditional confidence, ability to do good without needing recognition, more courageous and gentle, more able to dance with the rhythms of the universe, more able to walk your talk, more able to walk in the corridors of power and wealth without being corrupted, more able to focus and be in the present moment, more compassionate and wiser, while caring deeply for the victims of social injustice and environmental destruction coupled with aspiring to work to change the root causes of injustice.

**The Head:** Understanding the essentials of the three main Buddhist schools: Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana plus Ambedkarite Buddhism; able to understand and analyze existing engaged Buddhist movements worldwide, critically comprehend the present global political economy and articulate alternative social structures from Buddhist core values; able to identify causes and conditions for the present ecological crisis and ways of moving toward a more sustainable and resilient future; able to differentiate the pros and cons of important social movements of the past and present.

**The Hand:** able to use participatory approaches to facilitate meetings and discussions, manage projects and organizations as well as organize community and build networks to create social movements; able to practice meditation and mindfulness on a regular basis and apply them in daily life working with one's own emotions and relationships; able to prevent unnecessary conflicts with nonviolent communication and empathy as well as gaining the ability to facilitate conflict transformation and resolution when needed.



## KEY AREAS OF LEARNING

Six key areas of learning during this six-month course are as follows:

- (I) Introduction: Learning how to unlearn and relearn
- (II) Inner growth for awakening and leadership from within
- (III) Buddhist roots: our common ground
- (IV) Present Global Context: A challenge to Buddhists change workers
- (V) Interpersonal dynamics: leadership with compassion and participation
- (VI) Shambala Warriors in Action

### Six key areas

#### **(I) Learning how to unlearn, relearn & building a learning community** (two weeks)

Our learning approach focuses on enhancing self-empowerment, critical self-awareness as well as critical thinking. Participants and facilitators co-create the body of knowledge together. We devote about two weeks to learning and practicing facilitation, critical and systematic thinking as well as qualitative research skills. After the first period, participants will use these skills throughout the course.

#### **(II) Inner growth for awakening and leadership from within** (Five weeks)

Participants will experience several inner journeys to discover aspects of inner cultivation. Starting with an introduction to meditation, the group will then move into a workshop focusing on Inner Path for Transformation. After these two workshops, other inner growth work such as Leadership with Presence (process work), Vision quest, neuroscience & mindfulness, Enneagram & archetypes will be included throughout the course including more meditation retreats from teachers of different schools. Meditation and mindfulness will also be part of the daily schedule during this course.

#### **(III) Buddhist roots: our common ground** (Two weeks plus two weeks of Study Trips)

Participants will learn about the essence of different schools of Buddhism. We will have an overview of the foundations of each school by qualified teachers in Thailand and abroad. We will also learn about various efforts by engaged Buddhists in different parts of the world. Our learning will not be confined just to campuses but will also visit and see what is happening in the real 'Buddhist' world of Southeast Asia. However, we will emphasize buddhism with a small 'b' e.g. the essence and the core values of Buddhism over the established Buddhist institutions of any schools.

#### **(IV) Present Global Context: A Challenge to Contemporary Buddhists & Change Workers** (Five weeks)

Humans and other living beings have been facing serious crises across the globe for decades: the increasing rate of natural disasters, ecological destruction, violent conflicts between nations and groups, poverty and hunger, loneliness and meaninglessness in modern life, etc. We need to understand and be able to holistically analyse the root causes of these crises both at the macro and micro levels. We will devote a number of workshops to this task covering cultural issues and paradigm shifts, ecology crisis and how to heal the planet and analysing the political economy, globally and locally. In treating these key issues we also look into alternatives; the positive initiatives and efforts for reform around the world in both the past and present. We also devote a workshop to examining and discussing Beauty and the Modern World in the context of the most poorly planned cities in Asia.

#### **(V) Interpersonal dynamics: leadership with compassion and participation** (Five weeks)

Participants will be learning skilful means that enhance interpersonal relationships such as compassion and power sharing as well as leadership issues. The first workshop will be early in the course in order to build a community of learning so that participants will feel comfortable and safe in the process of participatory education within this programme. The other weeks will occur in the middle of the program so as to revisit and refine the theories and practices that are so important for the duration of the course and beyond. Nonviolent Communication, process work and conflict transformation will be part of this module. There will be a period for practical leadership training on mindful facilitation for empowerment.

#### **(VI) Shambala Warriors in Action** (Four weeks)

Several weeks of the course will be focused on learning practical skills that enhance participant's ability to get seriously involved in social change work. The skills you will learn range from how to organise a small community so that they can empower themselves to improve their situation, to building a social movement that includes successful organizational and project management. We provide another two periods of work taking place in impoverished communities where your service will be meaningful. The main aim will be for you to understand and bear witness to the social realities of our present world situation. In short, this programme is designed to equip participants with the skills needed to be a bodhisattva who can function meaningfully in the present global context



## EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

Our Educational Approach is as important as the contents of the course. Proper content with inappropriate educational practices will not bring about the result of empowerment and awakening we aims for

**Contemplative:** Meditation, mindfulness practice and time in silence are integrated in to the learning experience. From a Buddhist perspective, right mindfulness is the most important key factor for awakening.

**Participative:** Participants/students and facilitators/teachers co-create the body of knowledge together. This means in practice the sharing of authority in the learning community that we create during this course. Power sharing means empowerment; empowerment here means self-empowerment.

**Reflective:** Rigorous thinking and reflecting both individually and collectively on issues and experiences is a key part of the learning process. We emphasize learning how to unlearn and relearn as it is a critical component of being successful socially active buddhists

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM

- Serious meditation and mindfulness learning and practice are combined with rigorous intellectual enquiry into the complexity of the world combined with how to transform it to be more just and sustainable.
- Buddhism has had previous success in Asia shaping society through core Buddhist values; we will explore how Buddhists can play a meaningful role in contemporary society.
- Participants will participate actively in the learning process, contribute meaningfully in learning outcomes and interact with some of the foremost-experienced teachers/facilitators in each field of study.
- Learning, playing, working and meditating will be merged into one process in this course to develop compassion, wisdom, intellectual understanding and social commitment.



## APPLICATION & FEE

Applicants can apply for the whole programme (two semesters) or half programme (one semester) with the fee mentioned below. If applicant wants to combine the contents in other ways, it is also possible, please contact the coordinator for more arrangement.

### *The Buddhist Leadership Training Program*

#### TERM DATE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Semester: 1<sup>st</sup> SEP – 2<sup>nd</sup> DEC, 2016
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester: 12<sup>th</sup> DEC, 2016 – 10<sup>th</sup> MAR, 2017

#### PARTICIPANT FEE

**Full Programme (Two Semesters) Tuition: \$ 12,000 USD**

**Half Programme (One Semester) Tuition: \$ 6,800 USD**

*This fee covers tuition, field trip, Internet access, private tutoring, group excursions, and insurance. Living Expenses include three healthy meals/day and simple comfortable, safe lodging.*

#### STUDY LOCATION

**Wongsanit Ashram, Thailand**



## HOW TO APPLY

- Application deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2016, or, passing that, until all places are filled.
- Download and fill out the application form <https://buddhistleadership.wordpress.com/application-fee/> or <https://web.facebook.com/blt.ineb/>
- Email softcopies of the completed application to [blt.ineb@gmail.com](mailto:blt.ineb@gmail.com) with the subject line 'BLT Application\_2016\_YOURNAME'.
- If unable to submit a softcopy, post a hardcopy of the completed application to the INEB address.
- We will make an appointment with selected candidates for a Skype interview.

## CONTACT US

**Programme Director:** Pracha Hutanuwatra (+66 95 758 5995, [prachahutanuwatra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:prachahutanuwatra@yahoo.co.uk))

Supatida Siriwong (+66 83 940 1084, [BLT@inebinstitute.org](mailto:BLT@inebinstitute.org))

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<https://buddhistleadership.wordpress.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/blt.ineb/>

# FACULTY & STAFF



## Sulak Sivaraksa

Sulak Sivaraksa is the Rector of The INEB Institute and author of more than 50 books in Thai and English on Buddhism, social justice, and social critique. He is co-founder of INEB and the Spirit in Education Movement (SEM), a member of the World Future Council, and an Honorary Fellow in Buddhism at the University of Wales, Lampeter.



## Lodi Gyari Rinpoche

Lodi Gyari Rinpoche is co-chair of the INEB Advisory Committee and chairman of the Conservancy for Trans-Himalayan Arts and Culture. Lodi worked as a high-level diplomat and advocates for the Tibetan people, universal human rights, and global democratic reform.



## Dr. Yo Hsiang-Chou

Dr. Yo Hsiang-Chou is a scholar who has focused his research and teaching on the thought of Nagarjuna. He has taught at a number of universities in Taiwan, his primary tenure being in the Department of Buddhist Studies at Fo-Guang University. Dr. Yo is currently a member of INEB's Advisory Committee.



## Dhammadhari Lokamitra

Dhammadhari Lokamitra is founder and president of the Nagarjuna Institute in Nagpur, a center for training in Buddhist practice and social action for young people, especially Dalits, from all over India. Inspired by Dr. Ambedkar and guided by Urgyen Sangharakshita, Lokamitra teaches the Dhamma as a means of empowerment. Since moving to India in 1978 he has helped create many Dhamma teaching centers and social projects.



## Keibo Oiwa

(Japanese pen name: Tsuji Shin'ichi 辻信一) is a cultural anthropologist, author, translator, environmental activist, and public speaker. He lived in North America for sixteen years and holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Cornell University. Since 1992, he has taught in the International Studies Department of Meiji Gakuin University. The founder of the Sloth Club, an ecology and "Slow Life" NGO, he gives lectures and workshops on social and environmental issues.



## Ouyporn Khuankaew

Ouyporn Khuankaew is co-founder and lead trainer of the International Women's Partnership for Peace and Justice (IWP). Her trainings emphasize Buddhist feminist peacebuilding and non-violent direct action. Prior to IWP she ran the gender program of INEB.



## Dr. Greg Kruglak

Greg Kruglak is co-founder of the Conservancy for Trans-Himalayan Arts and Culture. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Geneva, and his research interests focus on Buddhism in contemporary society. He works with various philanthropic and disaster relief agencies across Asia.

**Wisit Wangwinyoo**  
During the chaotic years of the student uprising in the early 1970s, Wisit began medical school training before changing directions. He studied extensively on his own but was also mentored by such luminaries as Sulak Sivaraksa, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Nicolas Bennett. In Thailand, he is one of the most well-known and accomplished writers, facilitators and healers who integrates mindfulness, neuroscience, process work and transformative education.



## Nuttarote Wangwinyoo

An M.A. graduate in Environmental Leadership from Naropa University, Nuttarote has become a highly skilled trainer and facilitator with 15+ years of experience with team learning, dialogue facilitation, personal awareness, leadership development, collaborative communication skills based on Nonviolent Communication (NVC), Life Coaching, as well as Conflict Transformation grounded in Process Work and Vision Quest.



## Associate Professor Jirasak Jindarojana

Senior Engineer with expertise in Environmental, Water Resources, and Ecological Management by people/ community participation of more than 35 years experiences.



## Jane Rasbash

works in sustainable development in Burma, Thailand, Bangladesh and some African countries, using an empowerment and engaged spirituality approach. She lives in Findhorn Ecovillage and has taught on EDEs in Findhorn, Sieben Linden, Myanmar and Thailand. Jane has experimented with and taught Deep Ecology and the work that reconnects for many years and deeply respects the roots of Buddhism in this work. She lived at Wongsanit Ashram for 5 years during which time she worked closely with Ajarn Sulak and co-founded the Grassroots Leadership Training with Pracha. She is a Board Member of Gaia Education as well as Ecovillage Transition Asia.



## Theodore Mayer

Theodore Mayer is an anthropologist who has done extensive research, curriculum design, and teaching in the areas of socially engaged Buddhism and foreign language acquisition (English, Spanish, and Thai). He is Academic Director of the INEB Institute.



## Dr. Harsha Kumara Navaratne

Harsha Navaratne is a prominent civil society activist from Sri Lanka and is the founder and Chairperson of Sewalanka Foundation, Sri Lanka. His work primarily concentrates on community development. Harsha is the recipient of two honorary doctorates and currently serves as the Chairperson of the INEB Executive Committee.



## Pracha Hutanuwat

is an author, translator and facilitator focusing on engaged Buddhism, ecovillage education, mindfulness practice, macro-structural analysis and green politics. He works in Myanmar, Thailand, China, Laos and Scotland. His main interest is integrating personal awakening work with social transformation.

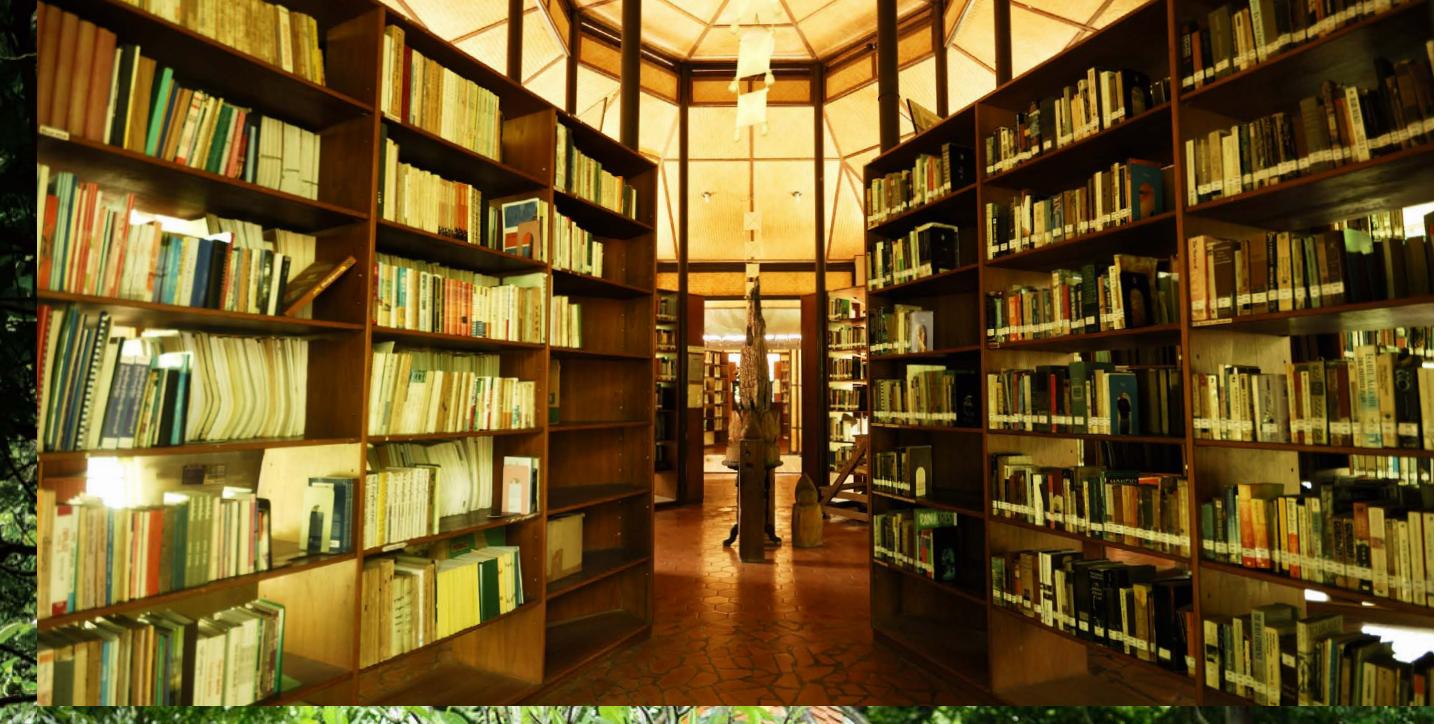


## STUDY LOCATION

*Wongsanit Ashram,  
Thailand*



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**Ecovillae Transition Asia**

**Ecovillage Community Collage**

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## **Contact us:**

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<https://buddhistleadership.wordpress.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/blt.ineb/>



*International Network  
of Engaged Buddhists*

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