



Network Singapore

**Global Compact Network Singapore**

160 Robinson Road #06-01

SBF Center

Singapore 068914

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### **About GCNS Youth Forum**

The GCNS Youth Forum is a forum for youths by youths. It will be held over 2 days from 17 – 18 March 2018 comprising company site visits, dialogues, seminars and workshops conducted by industry leaders on Corporate Sustainability.

The Youth Forum has the objectives to engage youths to champion Corporate Sustainability through direct involvement at both the planning and execution of the event. By getting youths involved in the planning, it provides a platform for Singapore youths to better understand the trends and issues pertaining to Corporate Sustainability.

Building on the success of the Youth Forum in 2017, the Youth Forum in 2018 aims to address the issues of SDGs in ASEAN. With Singapore assuming the chair of ASEAN in 2018, the Youth Forum 2018 will involve youths from ASEAN, China, Korea and Japan.

In 2017, NTUC and GCNS signed an MOU that launched the Sustainability Internship Programme (SIP) and Sustainability Professionals Programme (SPP). The programme targets youth and PMETs respectively to that prepare individuals to transition to the rising demand for sustainability professionals. During the Forum, a ceremony will be held for graduating participants of the SIP.

<b>Site Visits (Half-day)</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Programme</b>
1300H	Registration
1330H	<b>Company Site Visits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hilton Singapore</li><li>• Marina Bay Sands</li><li>• Fairprice</li></ul>

*\*\* Due to overwhelming response in 2017, we plan to conduct the site visits over 2 separate days so that participants can visit more than 1 site, and we are able to reach out to more participants. The site visit will be conducted on 9 March 2018 (the day before the Youth Forum) and another on 16 March 2018.*



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Day 1, 17 March 2018 (Saturday)	
0900H	<b>Registration</b>
0930H	<b>Opening Address by GCNS</b>
0940H	<b>Opening Address by GCNS President and Youth Organising Committee</b>
0950H	<b>Donor's Segment</b>
1000H	<b>Keynote</b>  <b>Youth as Drivers of SDGs in ASEAN</b>
1100H	<b>Opening Plenary</b>  <b>Youth involvement in SDGs in ASEAN</b>  <p>The UN's launch of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals agenda identified youths as one of the key drivers in taking the SDGs forward. As more youths enter the workforce in developed and especially in developing countries, this session will attempt to highlight their crucial role in driving change to achieve the SDGs.</p> <p>Key Takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What the SDGs are and what SDGs are most important in ASEAN</li> <li>• Why SDGs are a good way to frame the movement towards a sustainable future</li> <li>• Why youths should learn about the SDGs</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Chua, CEO, National Youth Council</li> <li>• Alvin Seo, Manager, Group Sustainability, SingTel</li> <li>• Kia Jiehui, Senior Sustainability Strategist, Forum for the Future</li> <li>• Kavickumar Muruganathan, VP of EHS, Halcyon Agri Corporation Limited</li> <li>• Elaine Tan, Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation</li> </ul>



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1200H	<b>Sustainability Programmes Segment</b>
1300H	<b>Lunch &amp; Youth Career Network Session</b>
1430H	<p><b>Sharing Session 1</b></p> <p><b>Sustainable Lifestyles (Environment)</b></p> <p>Environmental problems seem large and insurmountable to the average person. The actions we can take as regular people seem to be negligible in the grand scheme of things. However, the role of the consumer should not be underestimated. Small things done by a large group of people for a long period of time can make a difference.</p> <p>In this session, learn some tricks and tips on how to lead a sustainable lifestyle while, being empowered to have an eco-conscious mindset to guide your daily decisions to achieve the SDGs.</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be inspired to change personal lifestyle</li> <li>• Understand why is the conventional way of life is unsustainable</li> <li>• How to we lead a lifestyle that is more 'sustainable'</li> <li>• How to encourage others around us to do the same</li> </ul> <p>Speaker: Farah H Sanwari, Executive Director, Sustainable Living Lab</p>
1430H	<p><b>Sharing Session 2</b></p> <p><b>SDGs in Workplace (Social)</b></p> <p>Achieving the SDGs seem to mean that it requires large projects and grand visions. But in truth, sustainable impact also occurs at smaller scales. This sharing session will uncover how SDGs are relevant in the workplace. It will focus on two vulnerable groups: Migrant Workers and the workers with mental health issues.</p> <p>Migrants workers have also become an integral part of our workforce in ASEAN. However, arriving on a foreign land and without much knowledge about the local norms, these individuals are often faced with issues which place workers in a vulnerable position.</p> <p>On the other hand, mental health issues are not given enough attention as a stigma is usually attached to persons with mental health issues. However, this silent problem needs to be addressed if we are to have a positive and sustainable work environment.</p> <p>This session will give youths an opportunity to hear from experts in the field on these issues and hopefully gain a better understanding of the workplace as they enter the workforce.</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rights of migrant workers</li> <li>• How to get engaged for social change</li> <li>• How to manage mental health when making the transition from student life to work life</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can we, as youths, bring about a better working and living environment for the global workforce</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khoo Yi Feng, Training and Business Development Executive, Singapore Association of Mental Health</li> <li>• David Bensadon, CEO, We Are Caring</li> </ul>
1430H	<p><b>Sharing Session 3</b></p> <p><b>Sustainable Business: Big and Small (Economy)</b></p> <p>From startups to large MNCs, businesses in ASEAN are beginning to incorporate sustainability into their business model. How should we think of a business' economic imperative with respect to its environmental and social responsibilities?</p> <p>This sharing session will focus on disruptive and innovative business models among new companies today, and how a company can integrate sustainability into an existing legacy model.</p> <p>Key Takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criteria and principles for designing/modifying a sustainable business model in ASEAN</li> <li>• Common models and benchmarks in use in ASEAN</li> <li>• How junior employees can contribute to a sustainable business model in ASEAN</li> </ul> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eugene Ho, Head of Corporate and community Affairs, SAP Southeast Asia</li> </ul>
1545H	<p><b>Tea Break</b></p>
1615H	<p><b>Focus Group Discussion 1</b></p> <p><b>Understanding Transboundary Issues in ASEAN - A multi-stakeholder discussion (Environment)</b></p> <p>Transboundary pollution is a significant environmental issue in ASEAN. Issues such as the haze has captured the attention of the public recently with questions on the responsibilities and solutions to solve these transboundary issues front and centre of the discussion.</p> <p>Being the stakeholders of the future, it is critical to understand and discuss the role of youths in charting a future towards the SDGs. As such, this session will bring together the viewpoints of key stakeholders of the palm oil supply chain, in an effort evaluate different views and drive towards achieving sustainability.</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The perspective of people from other countries on a common issue</li> <li>• The challenges associated when working across boundaries to achieve sustainability</li> <li>• Participants will also learn about overall challenges faced by all stakeholders in the haze issue</li> </ul>



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	<p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tan Yi Han, Co-Founder, People’s Movement to Stop Haze</li> </ul>
1615H	<p><b>Focus Group Discussion 2</b></p> <p><b>Gender Inequality in ASEAN (Social)</b></p> <p>The election of Singapore’s first woman and Malay president has brought into focus the role of women in the highest echelons of politics. Halimah Yacob joins the likes of Aung San Suu Kyi as women in the highest positions in the ASEAN political arena.</p> <p>The changing gender roles and norms that accompany the modernisation of ASEAN bring with it new challenges and obstacles for women seeking to gain equality. With this in mind, the time is ripe to talk about the issues young women face in ASEAN and the role of both men and women in reducing the inequality between genders.</p> <p>Key Takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An understanding of how women are disadvantaged in social, political, and economic ways</li> <li>The realisation of a collaborative approach between men and women to minimise gender inequality</li> <li>Intersectionality as a mindset when thinking about social issues</li> </ul> <p>Facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helen Duce, Co-Founder and Chapter Leader, Lean In Singapore</li> <li>Uma Thana, Co-Founder, Lean In Singapore</li> </ul>
1615H	<p><b>Focus Group Discussion 3</b></p> <p><b>Sustainability Financing in ASEAN (Economic)</b></p> <p>The achievement of a sustainable future relies on the ability of governments, corporations, and other stakeholders to fund and scale sustainable solutions. With an estimated US\$5-7 trillion worth of investments required annually (UNEP, 2016), the ability to obtain these funds remains a key challenge.</p> <p>In the spirit of the Paris Agreement and the Year of Climate Action 2018, this focus group discussion will discuss the role of sustainable financing in achieving a low-carbon, sustainable future.</p> <p>Key Takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the role of green finance in the achievement of a sustainable future</li> <li>Understand the demand for green finance/bonds</li> <li>Learn the avenues to obtain green financing in ASEAN and the rest of the world</li> </ul> <p>Facilitator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tan Sze Yen, SVP Group Accounting Policy, DBS Bank</li> </ul>
1730H – 1800H	<p><b>Closing and End of Day 1</b></p>



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Day 2, 18 March 2018 (Sunday)	
0900H	<b>Registration</b>
0930H	<b>Opening Remarks (Recap of Day 1)</b>
0945H	<p><b>Opening Plenary</b>  <b>Topic: Communicating Sustainability</b></p> <p>Communication strategies plays an important role in shaping public opinion, with the media acting as a watchdog protecting public interest and creating awareness. The issue of sustainable development has gained greater prominence in recent years with the 2015 Paris Agreement and the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. There has not been a greater need to convince the public why sustainability matters and why businesses and individuals should care. What are the challenges in this field and how can we raise greater awareness on an issue where the sustainability rhetoric is getting mundane and repetitive? How then can youths effectively communicate and campaign for the issues that they care about to different audiences?</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of media and Ethical Reporting</li> <li>• Challenges that journalists and communication experts face reporting sustainable development issues</li> <li>• The best methods to communicate effectively on sustainable development issues</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robin Hicks, Deputy Editor, Eco-Business</li> <li>• Audrey Tan, Environment Journalist, Straits Times</li> <li>• Shewta Shukla, Director Communications, External Affairs &amp; Sustainability, Unilever</li> <li>• Shim Kyujin, Associate Professor of Corporate Communications, SMU</li> <li>• Shannen Fong, Head of Strategic Communications, NTUC Income</li> </ul>
1045H	<b>Break</b>
1100H	<p><b>Closing Plenary</b>  <b>Topic: How Can Youths Create a Sustainable Future?</b></p> <p>With the forum coming to a close, lets come together to consolidate our ideas. As youths of today will be the driving force to achieve the SDGs, let us take the opportunity to reiterate the responsibilities, commitments and a final call for action.</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The important role youths play in achieving a sustainable future</li> <li>• The pathways and opportunities youths can take to achieve a sustainable future through sharing of the stories of youth leaders</li> <li>• A call-to-action for youths to be inspired to take action for a sustainable future</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lastrina Hamid, Co-Founder, Singapore Youth for Climate Action</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emily Low, Co-Founder &amp; CEO, Pillpresso</li><li>• Mala Rajpal, Vice-President of External Affairs, Conjoint Consulting</li><li>• Sai Surya, Managing Director, Young Sustainable Impact, SEA</li></ul>
1200H	<b>Refreshments &amp; Networking</b>
1330H	<b>End Of Youth Forum</b>

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