

MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING A MORE CARING, FAIR AND RESILIENT SINGAPORE TOGETHER AMID THE PANDEMIC THROUGH THE SG TOGETHER ALLIANCES FOR ACTION AND PARTNERSHIPS

- **25 Singapore (SG) Together Alliances for Action (AfA)** announced in the past year aimed at partnering Singaporeans to co-create innovations and solutions spanning social and economic arenas so Singapore can emerge stronger post-pandemic.
- **These SG Together AfAs will bring together Singaporeans across People, Private and Public sectors** to take action on the 15 cross-cutting themes gathered from participants at the SG Together Emerging Stronger Conversation (ESC) series.
- **More participation opportunities and deep dive conversations** will be available for Singaporeans to be involved in Singapore Together.

25 Singapore Together Alliances for Action (AfA) have been progressively announced over the past one year amid the ongoing pandemic. These AfAs bring together Singaporeans across the People, Private and Public sectors to translate our aspirations to action. 16,900 Singaporeans' views and aspirations for a more united, just and fair society were heard during the SG Together Emerging Stronger Conversations (ESC) series.¹ The 15 major themes from these Conversations are now being addressed through AfAs and other partnerships; these will involve Singaporeans in co-creating ideas and solutions.

2 Launched in June 2019, the Singapore Together is a governance approach that involves Singaporeans in creating our shared future together. The SG Together AfAs were formed organically, and do not take on a uniform timeline. The SG Together AfAs are making steady progress on different thematic topics as part of Singapore's push to emerge stronger from the pandemic. The SG Together AfA on Lower-wage Workers, for instance, is midway through its series of co-creation workshops; this AfA aims to uplift wages and support the well-being of our lower-wage workers. The Emerging Stronger Taskforce, which convened nine industry-led AfAs to test-bed ideas in the economic realm, has released five key recommendations in its report in May. These recommendations have been accepted by the Future Economy Council (FEC) and will be incorporated into the FEC's work.² The work of another AfA, the Beyond COVID-19 Taskforce, has also recently concluded and the taskforce released its recommendations in May with a detailed guide on how the social service sector can build resilience over the longer term.³

3 Said Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for National Development and Minister-in-charge of Social Services Integration, "As we confront the challenges of COVID-19, the Singapore Together approach is more important than ever. The pandemic has been difficult for all of us, and we need to band together to find our way out of this storm, stronger than before. These 25 SG Together Alliances for Action are important platforms for us to do this. They are also a mark of our resilience, commitment and ingenuity as a people."

4 "I am encouraged that many people across different sectors have stepped up to be part of these AfAs. The AfAs have made good progress, exploring and trying out solutions to complex issues,

¹ A Singapore Together Emerging Stronger Conversations (ESC) online report (www.sg/EmergingStrongerConversations) was released on 9 February 2021; it reflects the views and aspirations from the ESC participants.

² Nine industry-led AfAs were formed under the Emerging Stronger Taskforce (EST). The EST's [full report](#) was released on 17 May 2021.

³ Released on 6 May; accessible [here](#).

especially those that Singaporeans said matter most to them in our Emerging Stronger Conversations. The AfAs will adapt to the needs and context of each topic, but what is common across them is the partnership approach. I hope this approach will strengthen our sense of shared purpose.” added Minister Desmond Lee.

5 A snapshot of the AfAs and some of the ESC themes is shown below; the progress of the SG Together AfAs; ways members of the public can contribute and be a part of some of these AfAs such as the Mentoring AfA, AfA on Emerging Needs and Volunteerism; are outlined in **Annex A**.

 <p>SOCIAL SUPPORT[^] NATIONAL IDENTITY & SHARED VALUES[^] GOVERNANCE & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT[^] OUR DIVERSE SINGAPORE COMMUNITY NATIONAL SECURITY & TOTAL DEFENCE RACE & RELIGION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPLIFT • SG Cares Community Network • AfA on Corporate Purpose • AfA on Emerging Needs and Volunteerism • Beyond Covid-19 Taskforce 	 <p>JOBS & ECONOMY[^] EDUCATION & TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AfA for Lower-wage Workers • AfA on Digitalising Built Environment* • AfA on EduTech* • AfA on Enabling Safe and Innovative Visitor Experiences* • AfA on Facilitating Smart Commerce* • AfA on Robotics* • AfA on Supply Chain Digitalisation* • AfA on Sustainability* • AfA on MedTech* • AfA on AgriTech* 	 <p>DIGITALISATION & TECHNOLOGY[^]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AfA – Online Ordering for Hawkers <p>Digital for Life Movement AfAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AfA to Tackle Online Harms, especially those targeted at women and girls • AfA to Enhance Digital Readiness Skills and Literacy for Daily Living • AfA to Enhance Digital Access for Needy Beneficiaries
 <p>HEALTH & WELLBEING ARTS & SPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Mental Well-being Network • Mentoring AfA 	 <p>FAMILY CARING FOR SENIORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work-life Harmony AfA • AfA for Caregivers of Persons with Disabilities 	 <p>ENVIRONMENT BUILT ENVIRONMENT & LIVEABILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of the Parks AfA • Youth Stewards for Nature AfA

Note:
[^]Denotes themes of most interest during the ESCs.
 *The nine SG Together AfAs convened by the Emerging Stronger Taskforce.

6 “Singapore Together is about convening groups who are passionate about various issues to explore, address and act on them together. To give effect to our desire to better engage and involve Singaporeans in policy development, government agencies have been innovating with new approaches like citizens’ panels and participatory design. We will do more through the Alliances for Action (AfAs), deep dive conversations and other partnerships,” said Ms Indranee Rajah, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office and Second Minister for Finance and National Development.

7 Minister Indranee added, “In this pandemic we have also seen many Singaporeans step forward with ground-up initiatives to help where needed. I have met and spoken with several of them, and am inspired by their generosity and care. I commend all of them for embodying the spirit of Singapore Together.”

8 Deep dive conversations are progressively organised by government agencies on some themes, such as families and parenthood, and the Green Plan. These deep dives build on the SG Together ESC series conducted between June to December 2020 and widen opportunities for Singaporeans’

participation – please refer to **Annex B**. In addition, Singaporeans who are keen to volunteer for causes or to start their own ground-up initiatives for causes can visit www.sg for the latest opportunities.

9 Singapore Together is a whole-of-nation effort. We encourage all Singaporeans to take an active part shaping the Singapore we aspire towards.

Annexes

Annex A: The 25 SG Together AfAs and Updates

Annex B: SG Together Deep Dive Conversations

26 JUNE 2021

About Singapore Together

Singapore Together is about the Government working with Singaporeans, and Singaporeans working with one another, to build our future Singapore. The Government will open up more partnership opportunities for Singaporeans to participate. The Government also hopes to support more citizen-led efforts. Whatever our background or interests, we can each step forward to contribute in areas that we care about. By working together, we can turn diversity into strength and transform challenges into opportunities, to build a Singapore that present and future generations of Singaporeans will be proud of.

25 SINGAPORE TOGETHER ALLIANCES FOR ACTION AND UPDATES

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
1.	<p>AFA FOR LOWER-WAGE WORKERS</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>In October 2020, the Tripartite Partners formed the Tripartite Workgroup on Lower-Wage Workers (TWG-LWW) to holistically examine lower-wage worker issues. Chaired by Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Senior Minister of State for Manpower, Mr Douglas Foo, Vice President, Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) and Dr Koh Poh Koon, then-Deputy Secretary-General, National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), the TWG-LWW aims to propose interventions and mechanisms to further uplift the wages and well-being of lower-wage workers.</p> <p>The TWG-LWW also recognises the importance of promoting stronger societal support for firms paying progressive wages and advancing the well-being of workers. On this front, the Government has accepted the Workgroup's call and launched the AfA for LWW on 3 March 2021 to mobilise passionate and action-oriented Singaporeans to contribute to the whole-of-society effort to uplift lower-wage workers.</p> <p><u>[Update] Key progress to date</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWG-LWW has convened the AfA for LWW to mobilise the community to uplift the well-being of lower-wage workers. The AfA will work on four areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Strengthen respect and appreciation from the public (ii) Encourage supportive working environments (iii) Increase support for and returns from upskilling and (iv) Support for progressive wages. • As of end-June 2021, four out of six co-creation workshops for AfA members have been held to develop a portfolio of ground-up projects in the areas above. <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 individuals from different backgrounds including the unions, businesses, community groups and youths are involved in this AfA and its series of six co-creation workshops. <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested members of the public can submit ideas and feedback here. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Tripartite partners – MOM, NTUC, SNEF</p>

SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

2. AFA ON WORK-LIFE HARMONY

Overview

Announced on 9 February 2021, this AfA brings together a community of Work-Life Ambassadors (WLAs) and other key stakeholders, including employers, employees and HR professionals, to take ownership and action to improve work-life harmony (WLH) in Singapore.

The AfA was formed in response to calls for greater work-life harmony at the ESCs, as widespread work-from-home arrangements during COVID-19 have led to an increased blurring of work-life boundaries. Set up by Tripartite Partners, the AfA will develop resources, as well as organise sector-specific Communities of Practice (CoP), to discuss work-life harmony practices that are practical for each sector.

[Update] Key progress to date

- The AfA on WLH has held two general CoP sessions to discuss various work-life practices, as well as rally participants to develop their own initiatives to improve WLH in Singapore.
- Subsequent sessions will include sector-specific CoPs to equip companies and workers in sectors such as food services, finance, and manufacturing to implement work-life harmony practices in a manner best suited for their sector.

Members

- The Alliance comprises all Work-Life Ambassadors and other key stakeholders:

Advised by tripartite partners

Co-Leads: Ms Gan Siow Huang (Minister of State for Manpower and Education), Ms Yeo Wan Ling (Director, Women and Family Unit & U SME, NTUC), Dr Bicky Bhangu (Council Member, SNEF)

Work-Life Ambassadors, Union Leaders, Parliamentarians, TAC Leaders and Progressive Employers, IHRP Certified Professionals and Family-Friendly Group Leaders etc.

- As of end April 2021, we have recruited over 150 members and will continue to expand the network.

How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part

- Interested members of public who wish to sign up as a Work-Life Ambassador can do so at www.tal.sg/tafep/Employment-Practices/Work-Life-Harmony/The-Work-Life-Ambassador-Scheme.
- More information on the AfA on WLH can be found at bit.ly/afa-on-wlh.

Lead agencies: Tripartite partners – MOM, NTUC and SNEF

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
3.	<p data-bbox="240 282 480 315">MENTORING AFA</p> <p data-bbox="240 356 368 389"><u>Overview</u></p> <p data-bbox="240 430 1410 573">Launched on 26 March 2021, this AfA is a platform for inspiring mentoring organisations or individuals to pledge their support to build the future of mentoring together. It is co-led by the Mentoring Alliance for Singapore (MASg) and the National Youth Council (NYC), with MOS Alvin Tan as the Advisor.</p> <p data-bbox="240 613 448 647">The AfA aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="240 687 1449 763">a) Promote a culture of mentoring in Singapore, and uplift the quality of mentoring programmes for the benefit of our youth; <li data-bbox="240 797 1449 907">b) Strengthen youth development outcomes through mentorship, via support for positive identity-formation and enabling them to make better-informed choices in education, career, and life transitions; and <li data-bbox="240 947 1449 1057">c) Increase awareness, accessibility and participation in mentoring, by supporting youths to better navigate relevant mentoring programmes/opportunities based on their specific life stage, backgrounds and needs. <p data-bbox="240 1095 850 1128">Primarily, the AfA will focus on three main pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="240 1169 1449 1245">a) Youth Engagement to understand youth needs and segments, and to engage youths to promote a culture of mentoring <li data-bbox="240 1279 1449 1355">b) Partnerships to aggregate and congregate quality mentoring programmes based on youth segments, profiles and needs to increase access to mentoring opportunities <li data-bbox="240 1388 1449 1464">c) Resources & Training to uplift the quality of mentoring programmes, including by cross-sharing resources and training frameworks, and establishing best practices for mentoring <p data-bbox="240 1503 544 1536"><u>[Update] Key progress</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="240 1576 1410 1653">• Organisations and individuals are encouraged to pledge on www.afasingapore.org to be part of the AfA. <li data-bbox="240 1653 1410 1729">• Currently, the NYC and MASg are in discussion to work out the operating model to drive the Mentoring AfA. <li data-bbox="240 1729 1410 1839">• Between May and July 2021, a Steering Committee will be formed to set overall direction and develop recommendations to achieve the AfA objectives. NYC and MASg will galvanise and recruit key members to lead the various initiatives in the AfA. <li data-bbox="240 1839 1410 1982">• From July onwards, engagement sessions will be conducted with organisations and individuals who have pledged to be members of the AfA. The engagements will lead to the formation of work groups for members to co-create and co-deliver the three key focus areas of the mentoring AfA.

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIP - Currently recruiting via the online pledge portal and through NYC and MASg networks. <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested organisations and individuals who wish to be part of the mentoring AfA can pledge online at www.afasingapore.org. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and National Youth Council (NYC)</p>
4.	<p>AFA ON EMERGING NEEDS AND VOLUNTEERISM</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Set up on 8 March 2021 this AfA focuses on (1) increasing support for mental wellness in the community, (2) providing space and opportunities for seniors to learn innovatively, and (3) facilitating the matching of donations-in-kind.</p> <p><u>Focus area 1</u></p> <p>The SG Cares Volunteer Centre @ Jurong East⁴ (SG Cares VC) has introduced a community mental wellness initiative called 'Sound Mind, Soft Heart'. The SG Cares VC is working together with partners such as ground-up group Bold At Work to develop programmes and activities to promote mental wellness among the residents. The SG Cares VC will train volunteers in skills and domain knowledge on mental wellness. The SG Cares VC targets to recruit about 550 volunteers who would come together to conceptualise and execute more mental wellness programmes and activities to further build up the community's knowledge of self-care, ability to detect signs of stress or early dementia, as well as the capacity to keep an eye on their vulnerable neighbours. The SG Cares VC @ Jurong East has plans to scale this initiative up across the town with the support of other partners to reach out to and support a greater pool of residents, thereby building a more supportive and resilient community at large.</p> <p><u>Focus area 2</u></p> <p>Citizens prioritised helping seniors gain new skills to help them better navigate a post COVID-19 landscape. A "Smart Seniors Applied Learning Centre" in Chinatown will be set up to enable seniors to learn digital skills and integrate the use of technology into their daily life. This centre will be set up and managed by RSVP Singapore and supported by corporate partners Singapore Pools and CapitaLand Hope Foundation. Singapore Pools and CapitaLand will work together to curate the programmes and send their staff to run the programmes as part of their corporate volunteerism efforts.</p>

⁴ Loving Heart Multi-Service Centre is appointed as the SG Cares Volunteer Centre @ Jurong East.

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p>Seniors will also be encouraged to volunteer to help develop the programmes, or to be guides and coaches at the centre. Community partners are encouraged to join to co-curate programmes and design technology platforms.</p> <p><u>Focus area 3</u></p> <p>Gift for Good, a ground-up group, is partnering four SG Cares Volunteer Centres⁵ to harness corporate and community resources through better aggregation of resources and matching to community needs.</p> <p>Gift for Good developed an online “matching” platform to aggregate demand and supply of donations-in-kind in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has onboarded over 200 donors and 26 charities onto the platform and is working on growing their pool of donors and charities. The National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC) is a mentor for Gift for Good and will connect them with suitable corporate partners from NVPC’s Company of Good network.</p> <p><u>[Update] Key progress</u></p> <p><u>Focus area 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SG Cares VC @ Jurong East targets to train 25 volunteers to be Mental Mentors by end June 2021. The SG Cares VC @ Jurong East is recruiting more volunteers to be Community Champions and is expanding the pool of Mental Mentors. • A project prototype to reach out to and help elderly hoarders was launched in Q2 2021. The SG Cares VC and AIC are conducting training sessions for the Mental Mentors. • The SG Cares VC @ Jurong East has reached out to eight residents through their mental wellness programme. <p><u>Focus area 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSVP Singapore has engaged seniors from non-profit organisations and grassroots leaders in the Chinatown area through site visits, interviews and workshops in January 2021 as part of their community engagement to solicit feedback and insights for the design of the “Smart Seniors Applied Learning Centre”. • The soft launch of the “Smart Seniors Applied Learning Centre” is targeted to be in Q2 2021 with support from grassroot advisors. • RSVP Singapore targets to start full operation of the “Smart Seniors Applied Learning Centre” in Q4 2021. • RSVP Singapore expects to train 500 seniors and will be engaging 50 partners in the first year of operations. <p><u>Focus area 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gift for Good targets to partner at least 50 non-profit organisations by March 2022.

⁵ The SG Cares Volunteer Centres are located in Ang Mo Kio, Geylang, and Jurong East. They are operated by Filos Community Service, AMKFSC Community Services, Care Community Services Society, and Loving Heart Multi-Service Centre respectively.

SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

- Gift for Good had over 4,000 unique website views and 70 Wishes in 2020. Gift for Good targets for at least 8,000 unique website views and at least 150 Wishes created in 2021.
- Gift for Good is focusing on user education on donations-in-kind through monthly campaigns on social media platforms from March 2021.
- SG Cares Office is working with NVPC, NCSS and ground-up groups to establish a set of guidelines to enhance the provision and management of donations-in-kind.

Partners

Focus area 1

- [Lead] SG Cares Volunteer Centre @ Jurong East (operated by Loving Heart Multi Service Centre)
- Ministry of Health (Office of Healthcare Transformation)
- Agency for Integrated Care
- Singapore Association for Mental Health
- National University Health System
- Bold At Work
- Singapore University of Social Sciences
- Social Service Agencies in Jurong East
- Grassroots Organisations in Jurong East
- People's Association

Focus area 2

- [Lead] RSVP Singapore
- CapitaLand Hope Foundation
- Singapore Pools
- Smart Nation and Digital Government Office
- Kreta Ayer-Kim Seng CCC

Focus area 3

- [Lead] Gift for Good
- National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre
- National Council of Social Service
- ACE Seniors
- SG Cares Volunteer Centres (AMKFSC Community Services, Care Community Services Society, and Loving Heart Multi-Service Centre)

How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part

- Interested members of the public or organisations who wish to participate in or give suggestions to any of the focus areas can contact the SG Cares Office at SGCares@mccy.gov.sg

Lead agency: Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth

SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE	
Note: #5 to #7 AfAs support the Digital for Life Movement	
5.	<p>AFA TO TACKLE ONLINE HARMS, ESPECIALLY THOSE TARGETED AT WOMEN AND GIRLS</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>MCI is working to form this AfA, which supports the Digital for Life movement⁶ and the wider inter-agency conversations on women's development. The AfA encourages Singaporeans to discuss, take action and co-create initiatives to tackle online harms (i.e. emerging issues such as sexual grooming and harassment facilitated through digital means and non-consensual publication and circulation of sexually explicit images online), especially those targeted at women and girls.</p> <p><u>[Update] Key progress</u></p> <p>Engagement sessions helmed by Senior Minister of State Ms Sim Ann have kickstarted and are on-going. Both men and women, from diverse backgrounds – including representatives from corporate firms, technology companies, media content producers, community organisations, legal professionals, academics and researchers, parents, students from Institutes of Higher Learning have been invited to attend these sessions. MCI is looking to form the AfA in the third quarter.</p> <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested members of the public who wish to contribute to the Digital for Life movement can visit www.imda.gov.sg/digitalforlife/get-started. <p><u>Lead agency: Ministry of Communications and Information</u></p>
6.	<p>AFA TO ENHANCE DIGITAL READINESS SKILLS AND LITERACY FOR DAILY LIVING</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The Smart Nation & Digital Government Group (SNDGG) and the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), together with the Infocomm Media and Development Authority (IMDA), are co-leading this AfA, which supports the Digital for Life movement. The AfA unifies ground-up efforts aimed at equipping Singaporeans with basic digital skills to enable them to lead digitally-enriched lives.</p>

⁶ Launched on 8 February 2021 by the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), with President Halimah Yacob as the Patron, this movement builds on the momentum of many community efforts seen during COVID-19 to help all Singaporeans go digital and lead digitally-enriched lives. It also serves as a platform for the people, private and public (3P) sectors to come together to coalesce, rally, co-create and catalyse ideas as a society under one umbrella branding.

The movement focuses on two key themes:

- Digital Wellness and Media Literacy: encouraging safe, responsible and balanced online habits, as well as mitigating the risks of online harms
- Technology and Inclusion: uplifting digital skills and technology adoption for different segments of society, as well as promoting the use of digital technology for social good.

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p>To help Singaporeans learn more about digital initiatives and emerging technology, SNDGG will expand the offerings on its online live learning platform, known as #SmartNationTogether or #SNT. #SNT, which was started in June 2020, is an online engagement platform that provides free learning opportunities for Singaporeans to broaden their digital awareness and skills and help narrow the digital divide. From June to December 2020, more than 12,000 people participated in #SNT's programmes. #SNT has also built a growing subscriber base of more than 3,000. The free programmes are curated by Smart Nation Ambassadors who come from more than 50 business and community organisations. Together, they have launched various programmes, including 101 tech series for working adults, webinars on tech issues (e.g. Smart Nation: In Conversation), and lessons for seniors on using digital government tools, and lifestyle apps (i.e. Live Smart).</p> <p>[Update] Key progress</p> <p>This year, SNDGG will partner even more business and community organisations on a range of programmes to help older workers upskill, and to remain employable and adaptable. SNDGG is also exploring partnerships with community partners interested to bring #SNT onto an app interface with gamification features, so that learning about digital can be made fun and engaging. For industry and community partners who are keen to start their own digital readiness projects focused on digital upskilling, IMDA also has a downloadable starter kit on the Digital for Life website to guide efforts in bringing ideas to fruition.</p> <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To volunteer as a Smart Nation Ambassador, sign up at www.volunteer.gov.sg/volunteer/agencies/agency_details?code=SmartNation • Interested members of the public who wish to contribute to the Digital for Life movement can visit www.imda.gov.sg/digitalforlife/get-started. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Smart Nation and Digital Government Group (SNDGG), Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) and Infocomm Media and Development Authority (IMDA)</p>
7.	<p>AFA TO ENHANCE DIGITAL ACCESS FOR NEEDY BENEFICIARIES</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The Smart Nation & Digital Government Group (SNDGG) and the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), together with Infocomm Media and Development Authority (IMDA) are co-leading this AfA, which supports the Digital for Life movement. The AfA aims to help more people benefit from the opportunities provided by technology in order to participate in a digital society.</p> <p>As a start, SNDGG and IMDA are working on developing an informational way-finding portal to provide beneficiaries with more curated information about partners who are providing digital devices to seniors and low-income groups. With this one-stop portal, users can easily search for digital devices since partners will be able to list their digital device schemes to reach a wider group of beneficiaries.</p>

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For information about Smart Nation, visit www.smartnation.gov.sg. Interested members of the public who wish to contribute to the Digital for Life movement can visit www.imda.gov.sg/digitalforlife/get-started. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Smart Nation and Digital Government Group (SNDGG), Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) and Infocomm Media and Development Authority (IMDA)</p>
8.	<p>AFA – ONLINE ORDERING FOR HAWKERS</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>With the COVID-19 measures, hawkers have been impacted by reduction in sales due to lower footfall. To support Singapore's hawker culture, the Government will explore with our industry partners and community, ideas to help our hawkers reach out to more customers online, particularly through e-ordering/delivery platforms.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hawkers, community partners, and e-ordering platform providers held a conversation on 17 June 2021 to identify challenges faced by hawkers in using e-ordering platforms. There was a consensus to do more to support hawkers in going digital. Members of the AfA will discuss and work on solutions to address the challenges hawkers face in adopting online delivery and e-ordering platforms. <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AfA is co-led by Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment, and Mr Tan Kiat How, Minister of State for Communications and Information Members will include hawkers, community partners, and platform providers <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested members of the public who wish to stay updated can visit www.sdo.gov.sg/programmes/hawkers-go-digital. <p><u>Lead Agencies:</u> Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment (MSE), Infocomm Media and Development Authority (IMDA), and National Environment Agency (NEA)</p>
9.	<p>AFA FOR CAREGIVERS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Announced on 5 March 2021 by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), this AfA works to co-create solutions on pressing issues faced by caregivers of persons with disabilities.</p>

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p>This initiative will complement the 3rd Enabling Masterplan, which highlighted the need to improve caregivers' well-being and enhance their caregiving capabilities through the creation of more peer support and informal support networks. Strengthening support for caregivers of persons with disabilities was also an area highlighted by participants in the Emerging Stronger Conversations.</p> <p>[Update] Key progress</p> <p>The AfA for Caregivers of Persons with Disabilities will build on the Caregiver Action Map developed by SG Enable and its Coalition of Partners for Caregiver Support. Action teams will be formed by the second half of 2021 to prototype and actualise projects that promote self-care and mutual support among caregivers.</p> <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email: caregivers@sgenable.sg <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Ministry of Social and Family Development, National Council of Social Service (NCSS), SG Enable and community partners</p>
10.	<p>AFA ON CORPORATE PURPOSE</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>This AfA was launched on 8 March 2021 by the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC). This alliance comprises businesses and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) leaders to co-develop a national framework and blueprint for corporate purpose and social impact.</p> <p>This AfA arose from an Emerging Stronger Conversation (ESC) organised by the NVPC, where participants collectively envisioned a business ecosystem that supports and enables corporates to effectively align purpose and profit to become a force for good in Singapore. Participants at the ESC identified gaps and opportunities in the ecosystem that could foster closer partnership between the private, public and people sectors, and shared feedback on ways to make corporate giving more accessible.</p> <p>One key objective of this alliance is to evaluate various local and international standards related to corporate purpose and social impact. The alliance aims to recommend a harmonised framework that guides corporates to do good strategically, sustainably and impactfully.</p> <p>The development of the framework and blueprint will be done in phases. The first phase will focus on (i) studying the factors that affect the integration of purpose and profit in corporates, and (ii) seeking consultation from corporates and stakeholders. Results of the study will be shared in the second half of 2021.</p>

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	<p><u>[Update] Key progress</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted research and analysis of global trends and snapshot study by Ernst and Young to identify key factors/stakeholders motivating or hindering companies from integrating corporate purpose in May 2021. • Invited 18 stakeholders with good representation of Singapore's corporate ecosystem, from non-profit organisations, to SMEs and MNCs, to join the alliance. • First AfA meeting will be held in July 2021. <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Lead] National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre • 5 Non-profit organisations – Global Compact Network Singapore, Singapore Business Federation Foundation, Asian Venture Philanthropy Network, MINDSET (Jardine Matheson), Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth • 10 MNCs -- Citibank Singapore, Cognizant Technology Solutions Singapore, DBS Bank, Ernst & Young, Maybank Singapore, Prudential Singapore, S&P Global Asian Holdings, Shiseido Asia Pacific, Sodexo Singapore and Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) • 3 SMEs -- One Championship, Right People Renewable Energy (RPRE), Samsui Supplies & Services <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisations or interested members of the public who wish to participate in the design and development of the national framework and blueprint or give suggestions may contact the Company of Good at contact@companyofgood.sg. <p><u>Lead agency: National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre</u></p>
11.	<p>BEYOND COVID-19 TASKFORCE</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Set up in May 2020, this Taskforce aimed to guide and strengthen the resilience of the social service sector during and beyond COVID-19. It was chaired by the NCSS President Ms Anita Fam, and comprised 21 other members who are representatives from the corporate, public and people sectors.</p> <p>The Taskforce gathered insights and feedback from multiple stakeholders to identify areas of focus as COVID-19 evolves and proposed ways for the sector to emerge stronger in the 'next normal'. Social service agencies can take reference from these dynamic recommendations and prepare to transit.</p> <p>The Taskforce focused on four main areas, including digitalisation for business continuity, innovation in service delivery, strengthening manpower and volunteer mobilisation, and enhancing leadership capabilities.</p>

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	<p>[Update] Key progress</p> <p>The Taskforce completed its work in April 2021. Recommendations from the Taskforce have been shared with social service agencies and the public on 6 May 2021 in a guide for SSAs and stakeholders on emerging stronger collectively from the pandemic. To support SSAs in their efforts to build resilience, NCSS will be launching several initiatives and resources in the coming months. NCSS is working with SSAs and stakeholders to reimagine the social service sector in the next normal and work on addressing challenges over the longer term, through the refreshing of the Social Service Sector Strategic Thrusts (4ST), the strategy roadmap to guide the development of the sector for the next five years.</p> <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Taskforce was chaired by NCSS President, Ms Anita Fam and comprised 21 other representatives from the people, public and private sectors. <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCSS has started convening a series of engagement sessions for SSAs and key stakeholders to discuss aspirations for the sector and working towards a shared vision together. Social service agencies or interested members of the public who wish to participate or contribute suggestions may contact planning@ncss.gov.sg. NCSS invites stakeholders to partner with NCSS and SSAs to support the development of the recommended capability areas identified by the Taskforce, through sharing of expertise, networks and resources. Funders and the community are welcome to support SSAs in their capability and capacity-building projects, by giving to the Community Capability Trust (CCT) through Community Chest. SSAs may apply for the CCT from April 2022 onwards to support projects that will strengthen organisational capabilities, enhance infrastructure, improve productivity and optimise manpower to strengthen resilience after COVID-19 and into the next normal. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Ministry of Social and Family Development, and National Council of Social Service</p>
12.	<p>YOUTH MENTAL WELL-BEING NETWORK</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Against the backdrop of increasing mental health concerns among the young, the Youth Mental Well-being Network, supported by MOE, MOH and MSF, brought together more than 1,500 passionate individuals from various backgrounds to generate and implement ideas to support youth mental well-being.</p> <p>Throughout the different discussions, one key theme that emerged was the importance of whole-of-society efforts. From the October 2020 engagement sessions, the Network members have initiated ideas for about 40 potential projects, and subsequently narrowed these to about</p>

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	<p>24 projects ranging from enhancing youths' emotional resilience to strengthening support among peers, and within the family, workplace and community.</p> <p>[Update] Key progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project teams were further engaged in a session on 29 May, where they shared their project ideas and progress, and looked for synergies with the projects by other YMWB Network members. They also received feedback and guidance from the Network Advisors. Senior Minister of State, Dr Janil Puthuchear, Minister of State, Ms Sun Xueling and Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Eric Chua were also present at the engagement session. When the projects are ready for implementation, a call-to-action will be done to invite participation from Network members and members of public interested to support youth mental well-being. <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1,500 youths, parents, caregivers, mental health professionals and practitioners have stepped forward to enhance youth mental well-being. <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To participate, sign up at www.reach.gov.sg/youth-mental-well-being. <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Ministry of Social and Family Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health. Supported by: Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and National Youth Council.</p>
13.	<p>UPLIFT (UPLIFTING PUPILS IN LIFE AND INSPIRING FAMILIES TASKFORCE)</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>UPLIFT is an MOE-led inter-agency task force that aims to safeguard social mobility and strengthen support for students from disadvantaged families, to enable them to achieve their true potential. In doing so, UPLIFT works closely with MSF and other government agencies to synergise across different initiatives, like Community Link (ComLink), KidSTART, and community programmes like M³^[7].</p> <p>One of UPLIFT's key strategies is to strengthen after-school care and support, especially for those who do not have conducive home environments. A Student Care Centre (SCC) has been set up in every primary school since 2020. Teachers proactively identify and reach out to parents of disadvantaged students, who would benefit from such after-school care, to enrol them. Secondary schools have also put in place the GEAR-UP programme, which targets students who would benefit from more structured after-school supervision and support. In January 2020, the UPLIFT Community Pilot started in Boon Lay, Kreta Ayer and Woodlands.</p>

⁷ M³ is a collaborative effort between three key community institutions – Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis), Council for the Development of Singapore Malay/Muslim Community (MENDAKI) and Malay Activity Executive Committees Council (MESRA).

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The pilot seeks to strengthen upstream wraparound support for disadvantaged students and their families, leveraging community resources in collaboration with schools, coordinated by an UPLIFT Town-Level Coordinator (TLC). As part of the pilot, volunteers are recruited and trained to provide befriending support to these families.

From February 2021, the pilot expanded its coverage to include more students, such as those living in rental flats, and was also extended to Bukit Merah. It has since supported 100 primary and secondary students and is on track to reach out to more than 300 students by 2022. By the end of this year, we also expect to recruit, train, and deploy at least 100 UPLIFT family befrienders.

[\[Update\]](#) **Key progress**

No. of organisations involved: >55

No. of individuals involved: at least 100 family befrienders by end of 2021

UPLIFT, with members and representatives from 11 different organisations, meets quarterly to discuss key UPLIFT initiatives.

As of Q1 2021, over 55 organisations – including Social Service Agencies (SSAs), corporates and public agencies – have come forward to work with UPLIFT to support our disadvantaged students. While some organisations provide funding and professional expertise, others have provided platforms and volunteers to meaningfully engage disadvantaged students after school and during the school holidays in areas such as learning outcomes, social-emotional competencies, resilience, and motivation. To date, more than 45,000 students have benefited from various support and programmes offered by our partners.

Members

Chairman: Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Second Minister for Education

Other committee members:

Mr Zaqy Mohamad	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) & Ministry of Manpower (MOM) Deputy Chairman, Yayasan MENDAKI
Ms Sun Xueling	Minister of State, Ministry of Education (MOE) & Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) Board Member, Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC)
Ms Low Yen Ling	Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) & Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) Chairperson of Mayors' Committee & Mayor, South West District
Mr Eric Chua	Parliamentary Secretary, MCCY & MSF
Ms Lai Wei Lin	Second Permanent Secretary, MOE
Ms Melissa Khoo	Deputy Secretary (Policy), MOE

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Mr John Lim	Second Deputy Secretary, MSF
Ms Jamie Ang	Chief Executive Officer, Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)
Mr Lim Hock Yu	Chief Executive Director, People's Association (PA)
Mr Pok Cheng Chong	Executive Director, Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC)
Mdm Zuraidah Abdullah	Chief Executive Officer, Yayasan MENDAKI
Mr Anbarasu Rajendran	Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA)
Mr Vincent Schoon	Vice President, The Eurasian Association, Singapore
Ms Zarina Yusof	Acting Executive Director, Association of Muslim Professionals
Dr Sudha Nair	Executive Director, Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence (PAVE)

How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part

- Organisations which are interested to contribute to UPLIFT efforts can write in to MOE_UPLIFT@moe.gov.sg. From time to time, we will also recruit volunteer UPLIFT family befrienders through volunteer.sg. These befrienders will be trained and matched to families, to help them build a more stable and conducive learning environment for their children. The most recent round of recruitment was concluded in February 2021.

Lead agency: Ministry of Education

14. SG CARES COMMUNITY NETWORKS

Overview

The SG Cares Community Networks brings together locale-based stakeholders from government and community-based agencies to build local support networks in the community. Since May 2018, 3,500 participants from 160 government and community-based agencies have come together through 21 networking sessions to collaborate and co-create initiatives that benefit the community.

At the onset of COVID-19 in 2020, the SG Cares Community Networks reached out to 50,000 households living in rental flats through SMS-es, phone calls and posters in the estates to ensure that these families were connected to sources of help if they needed it. The SG Cares rental outreach efforts are ongoing and is targeted to complete in August 2021.

With a better understanding of ground needs, the SG Cares Community Networks serves as a rallying point for ground-up initiatives, volunteers and donors to coordinate efforts and channel resources to areas of need.

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	<p><u>[Update] Key progress</u></p> <p>Three virtual SG Cares Webinars were organised between December 2020 to February 2021, where an estimated 900 participants from government agencies, social service agencies, corporates, ground-up movements, grassroots organisations, and other community partners attended as a prelude to the 2nd wave of SG Cares Community Networks Sessions. The upcoming round of SG Cares Community Networks Sessions will be held from August 2021 as we continue to engage partners within each locality to identify needs and co-create solutions to best address them.</p> <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of the SG Cares Community Networks include Social Service Agencies (SSAs), corporates, ground up movements, Religious Organisations, schools/Institute of Higher Learnings, Grassroots Organisations and Government Agencies. The number and types of members are based on the demographics of each town. <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested members of the public or organisations who wish to participate in, find out more information, or to give suggestions can do so at https://form.gov.sg/#!/5f2a369c9a9c6f00119c8e36 <p><u>Lead agencies:</u> Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and Ministry of Social and Family Development</p>
15.	<p>FRIENDS OF THE PARKS</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The Friends of the Parks (FotP) AfA serves to actively promote stewardship and responsible use of parks through programmes, volunteer activities and platforms for conversations. The different stakeholders come together to discuss and implement solutions to tackle issues faced by each park/ area.</p> <p>FotP is expanded to further engage stakeholders and collaboratively co-create parks by being involved in conceptualising, designing, developing and managing and programming these parks.</p> <p>The FotP initiative meets the challenges and suggestions that were voiced by participants of the National Parks Board (NParks)-led Emerging Stronger Conversation (ESC). ESC participants had identified the need to enhance infrastructure and design of parks to support an increased number of visitors and to make parks more pandemic-ready, besides encouraging a greater sense of ownership. Constant outreach and education to raise awareness on responsible use of green spaces was also identified as a solution to the challenges surfaced.</p> <p>With that, the FotP Engagement Programme carries the intent of co-creating more resilient and carefully-designed parks in the future, as well as sustaining it through the formation of new FotP</p>

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groups. The new and existing FotP groups, comprising stakeholders from various sectors, are given support and empowerment to drive ground-up initiatives, create platforms for community engagement, and collaborate with NParks to problem-solve. A target was set to co-create up to 50 new and redeveloped parks in the next 5 years, with NParks laying the foundation to encourage stakeholders to come together and form an FotP group.

[Update] Key Progress

NParks aims to co-create 50 new and redeveloped parks in the next 5 years, starting from end-2019. These park development and redevelopment projects will undergo various stakeholder engagement sessions to co-design parks, followed by co-implementing and co-managing them later.

During the co-design phase, NParks will first identify and prioritise the stakeholders to be engaged before conducting research activities to understand the needs, behaviour and aspirations of stakeholders and users through observations, interviews and focus group discussions. The insights gathered from this process lead to an envisioning exercise where ideas are formed to meet user needs. Feasible and viable ideas are then brought into a prototyping exercise to be tested with the wider community. Feedback gathered allows us to refine these prototypes before forming park design principles that will eventually form the final park design.

In the co-implement or co-build phase, NParks will organise various community activities that contribute to the construction of the park. This could involve plant propagation and planting, building and installation of simple facilities, and enhancing the aesthetics of the park through mural art and wall painting. Such activities bond participants and build a stronger sense of ownership.

Following the park's completion, NParks and the community collaborate on various initiatives in the co-managing phase. Advocates and champions who emerged from the previous two phases are given the support to run programs and activities, as well as engage the community to problem-solve and educate users to use the park responsibly.

2020:

- FotP Engagement projects completed for 2 parks projects (Pasir Panjang Park and Tampines Boulevard Park)
- As we move into construction phase, stakeholders will be able to co-build the parks
- The community in Pasir Panjang Park was invited for a plant propagation exercise in 2020, and will be involved in painting line markers as well as contribute materials to showcase the heritage of Pasir Panjang
- New FotP group, Friends of East Coast Park, launched in November 2020

2021 (current):

- FotP Engagement for additional 15 parks projects is underway

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	<p><u>Members</u></p> <p>Minister Desmond Lee is Advisor of the FotP which consists of the ten (10) FotP groups, each with its unique focus. The number of members in each group is constantly growing with more NParks volunteers participating in activities organised by these FotPs, and committee members for each FotP group may change from time to time. NParks advises these FotP groups and provides the necessary support for them to conduct activities. Across the 10 existing Friends of the Parks groups, there are around 200 individuals representing multiple stakeholder groups from the general public, interest-based organisations, non-government organisations (NGO) and youths. Most groups have around 8-12 core members, with the exception of FUN, FoRC and FoMP, which have more members.</p> <p>The list of current FotP AfA groups is shown below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Ubin Network • Friends of Chestnut Nature Park • Friends of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve • Friends of Park Connector Network • Friends of Bukit Timah Forest • Friends of Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park • Friends of Marine Park • Friends of Rail Corridor • Friends of TreesSg • Friends of East Coast Park <p><u>How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part</u></p> <p>Interested members of the public who would like to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer in the respective parks, nature reserves or nature areas may sign up at: https://vms.nparks.gov.sg/registration1.aspx <p>Be involved in co-creating parks may sign up at: https://form.gov.sg/#!/5e21692b935451001117a12e</p> <p><u>Lead Agency: National Parks Board (NParks)</u></p>
16.	<p>YOUTH STEWARDS FOR NATURE</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The Youth Stewards for Nature is a programme under the National Parks Board's (NParks) Youth@SGNature initiative to engage and empower youths in our community to become active stewards for greenery and biodiversity in Singapore. Participating youths will be empowered to tackle real-life challenges in greenery and ecology such as acting as ambassadors to promote responsible human-wildlife interactions; working with the community to design, plant trees and monitor biodiversity along Nature Ways under the OneMillionTrees movement; organising and facilitating therapeutic horticulture sessions for elderly with special needs. These projects address some of the points raised during the Emerging Stronger Conversations with youths</p>

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held on 30 Oct 2020, such as managing human-wildlife interactions in our City in Nature, and finding more ways to assimilate nature into the lives of Singaporeans.

Groups of youths will study and develop solutions to one of 17 problem statements relating to urban greenery and biodiversity, under the mentorship of NParks staff who are familiar with the subject, such as tackling the issue of wildlife feeding. As part of the project, the youth stewards will carry out research both online and on-site and develop proposals to implement the solutions. Through the project, the youth stewards are also strongly encouraged to reach out and involve other stakeholders in the community to realise their proposals.

[Update] Key Progress

6-month General Programme Timeline (actual timelines and milestones will vary according to project):

16 Jan: Opening Seminar held via Zoom, attended by Minister Desmond Lee, more than 80 youths, and over 30 NParks staff and mentors

17 Jan – Feb: Scoping and developing project proposals

Mar – May: Implementing project

Jun: Wrapping up project

Jul: Planned closing session where groups present the outcomes of their projects

Jul – Dec: Youths may choose to carry on with some of their projects or see through any post-programme follow-ups. They may also be invited back to share their experiences with the next round of Youth Stewards if there is a project on the same theme in the next Jan – Jun cycle of YSN.

Other notable dates:

- 11 Jan: Minister Desmond Lee met 3 youth participants who are working on the project group working on the 'Say No to Feeding Wildlife' campaign to hear about their plans to reach out to public
- 31 Mar: Minister Desmond Lee met 7 youth participants who are working on the project to brainstorm new ways of engaging users along Park Connector Networks (PCNs), to learn about their plans and share his suggestions

Members

- More than 80 Youths and over 20 NParks staff who are acting as mentors for the youths' projects, across 18 groups.

How Interested Members of the Public Can Stay Updated or Play a Part

- Interested youths can contact NParks: YSN@nparks.gov.sg.

Lead Agency: NParks

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	<p>Note: #17 – 25 AfAs were convened by the Emerging Stronger Taskforce (EST), which has published a report on its work, including the nine AfAs that it convened. Throughout their journey, the AfAs worked closely with partners and key stakeholders who contributed ideas, expertise, and resources. This involved close to 1,800 private and public sector participants, from local SMEs to MNCs. Having successfully concluded their minimum viable products (MVPs) and obtained key insights from their sprints, these AfAs secured the agreement of key stakeholders to take on subsequent implementation and scale-up of initiatives, where relevant. Interested members of the public can refer to the EST Report for more details.</p>
17.	<p>SUPPLY CHAIN DIGITALISATION</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA aims to strengthen Singapore's position as a hub for international trade, by extending our strengths into the virtual realm, and plugging our businesses and workers into future supply chain opportunities.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA brought a user-centric lens to the diverse and varied landscape of stakeholders involved in the supply chain value chain. It sought stakeholders' views to map out more than 60 pain points along the end-to-end customer journey. With these findings, the AfA established a common data infrastructure (CDI) to enable trusted and secure data sharing between industry players, driving efficiency, productivity, and resilience through physical, financial, and information flows. For a start, the AfA prioritised three use cases for the CDI, that would address about half of the pain points identified. The AfA also identified key pain points faced by local SMEs, and developed initiatives to address them, such as enabling access to new markets, supporting access to financing, and enhancing logistics fulfilment by onboarding SMEs onto supporting digital platforms.</p>
18.	<p>SUSTAINABILITY</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Singapore sits amidst a region that can potentially supply Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) credits. NBS can provide up to one-third of the mitigation needed to meet Paris Agreement goals by 2030. The AfA's vision is for Singapore to help unlock this value by serving as a regional and global leading carbon services and trading hub. This will help Singapore to capture new opportunities in carbon-related services and create a carbon-conscious society.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA interviewed more than 70 organisations to learn about gaps in the voluntary carbon market that Singapore could plug. Trust and quality were key issues – buyers want access to a supply of quality credits at transparent prices, while sellers want a minimum price. This enabled them to arrive at a value proposition to facilitate price discovery, improve liquidity, and verify the integrity and source of carbon credits (including NBS credits). The value proposition</p>

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	<p>was sufficiently well-validated through the corporate venture sprint process, and DBS, Singapore Exchange, Standard Chartered, and Temasek Holdings will launch a global exchange and marketplace for high-quality carbon credits by the end of the year. Concurrently, the AfA also developed a one-stop solution for companies to measure, mitigate, and offset their carbon footprint (GreenPass).</p>
19.	<p>DIGITALISING BUILT ENVIRONMENT</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA envisions an integrated and collaborative Built Environment (BE) future that is digitally enabled, resilient, sustainable, and productive. With the impact of COVID-19 making clear the need for digitalisation, the AfA worked with government agencies to establish ambitious targets on this front:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Secure commitment from 1,000 value chain partners onboard a Coalition for Built Environment Digitalisation by 2025; and b. Attain at least 70% Integrated Digital Delivery (IDD) adoption, in terms of Gross Floor Area (GFA) of new building projects by 2025. <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA “turbo-charged” digital transformation in the BE Cluster by catalysing the launch of Common Data Environment (CDE) Data Standards to encourage digital collaboration amongst industry stakeholders without needing players to conform to a single platform. Recognising the importance of securing the commitment of “power users” to support this and generate a “pull effect”, the AfA established the Coalition for Built Environment Digitalisation, an industry digital partnership. To date, the AfA has onboarded more than 300 companies, such as CapitaLand, City Developments, and GuocoLand, to pilot the CDE Data Standards, and adopt suitable digital platforms in their upcoming projects.</p>
20.	<p>FACILITATING SMART COMMERCE</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA sought to enable and empower a vibrant Retail sector, with Singapore brands that have a global footprint through complementary online and offline commerce, supported by mutually beneficial industry partnerships.</p> <p><u>Progress/ Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA demonstrated the benefits of online-to-offline approaches to local retailers, through the launch of the CapitaLand x Shopee 11.11 Campaign and IMM Virtual Mall. The 11.11 campaign, for example, drove sales and shopper traffic for tenants at six CapitaLand malls through inclusion of gamification elements, while also driving online footfall for local retailers through Shopee. More than 70 brands, including local retail brands and F&B establishments, have benefitted from these campaigns. The collaboration also demonstrated the potential of merging online and offline experience at a scale beyond the enterprise level. These learning</p>

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	<p>points were translated to create an Exporting Singapore Brands incubator programme, that aims to reduce the lead time for retail partners to venture beyond the local market from one year to three months.</p>
21.	<p>ROBOTICS</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA envisions Singapore as a global leader and provider of robotics and automation, not just an adopter. Singapore's competitive advantage is in delivering a superior end-to-end solution premised on Singapore's ability to orchestrate and deliver complex systems, not simply selling individual components or sub-systems in the robotics value chain.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA brought together local players across the Autonomous Vehicle (AV) and Cleaning value chains for the first time. For AVs, the AfA successfully deployed Singapore's first on-demand autonomous transport revenue service at Singapore Science Park 2 and Jurong Island in January 2021. By conducting commercial trials using even the current state of autonomous bus technology, the AfA provided a good opportunity to: (i) glean insights on paying commuters' expectations of AV services, user experience, and feedback, (ii) understand the optimal price point for running such a first or last mile service using an AV fleet for future commercial deployments, and (iii) establish local track record to scale internationally. Public acceptance has been good, with positive commuter feedback and no safety incidents.</p> <p>For Cleaning, the AfA established the set of commercial terms necessary for companies across the value chain to invest in and scale up the adoption of cleaning robotics beyond one-off pilots to strengthen the adoption of robotics solutions in the sector, which include establishing standards for cleaning robots, and upskilling and certifying workers to take on supervisory roles over the cleaning robots.</p>
22.	<p>ENABLING SAFE AND INNOVATIVE VISITOR EXPERIENCES</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Singapore is one of the world's most visited cities by international travellers, and serves as cross-roads where people, capital and ideas meet. Spurred by COVID-19, the AfA sought to reimagine the end-to-end international visitor experience to deliver not only safe but innovative visitor experiences. Its aspiration was to restore 30% of Singapore's pre-COVID-19 travel flows by end-2021, and enable international businesses to connect in Singapore through MICE – Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions, even amidst the COVID-19 global pandemic.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA developed prototypes for safe business events and safe leisure itineraries, including enablers such as an inbound travel insurance product and a digital concierge to assist both travellers and industry in managing pre-arrival procedures and post-arrival itineraries. The</p>

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
	<p>prototypes were piloted in November 2020 at TravelRevive – powered by ITB Asia and the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), the first hybrid international travel tradeshow to take place physically in Asia Pacific during COVID-19, with local and foreign attendees. The learnings from this first pilot were quickly incorporated into an updated hybrid event prototype for Geo Connect Asia 2021, with more than 1,000 attendees from 55 countries.</p>
23.	<p>EDUTECH</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA aspires for EduTech to open the window for Singapore to reach the world's learners. Growing the quality of our Education sector will strengthen the competitiveness of our workforce, and position Singapore as a global talent hub.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA brought over 200 stakeholders in the EduTech community together to agree on the key growth opportunities and enablers required. It has also supported ventures that demonstrated new forms of partnerships to unlock synergies within our community. For example, EduTech company Kydon worked with SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) to pilot a delivery platform (ZilLearn Skills) that leverages analytics to create skills-job matches and pilot the use of SkillsFuture Credit on a subscription basis. The AfA established that within EduTech, the Training and Adult Education (TAE) sector presents the strongest growth opportunity for Singapore, advantaged by our concentration of corporates and corporate academies, and position amidst a region rich in human potential and markets.</p>
24.	<p>MEDTECH</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>The AfA aspires to develop Singapore into a leading global hub for MedTech, serving as a trusted location for end-to-end design, development, and manufacturing of a range of MedTech products, with speed-to-market, and access to the region as Singapore's key differentiating advantages.</p> <p><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p>The AfA identified in-vitro diagnostics (IVD) as a key MedTech subsector to focus on, given the rising importance of IVD for diagnosing diseases or monitoring a person's health amidst the growing prevalence of both infectious and chronic diseases, and the drive towards value-for money and personalised medicine. It aims to position Singapore as a one-stop location that enables end-to-end IVD solutions development and commercialisation, with speed-to-market and access to the region as our key differentiating advantages.</p> <p>The AfA also reviewed bottlenecks in Singapore's IVD value chain and identified developing local capabilities in lyophilisation, a core IVD manufacturing process which we currently lack, as a low-hanging fruit that can be quickly harvested.</p>

	SINGAPORE TOGETHER AFAS' PROGRESS UPDATES AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
25.	<p data-bbox="240 286 389 315">AGRITECH</p> <p data-bbox="240 360 368 389"><u>Overview</u></p> <p data-bbox="240 434 1412 613">Indoor vertical farming for Asian leafy greens, which form the bulk of local demand of vegetables, is currently not economically viable in Singapore. The AfA has kickstarted a study on a new platform model, which would afford (operational) cost-savings, pooling of risks, value creation through stronger branding, and build stronger links between local vegetable farms and other stakeholders along the value chain.</p> <p data-bbox="240 658 1412 837">If successful, indoor vertical farming will be able to sustainably amplify local production, leading to a virtuous cycle that will help achieve Singapore's "30 by 30" aspiration, and catalyse a decade of robust industry development within the AgriTech ecosystem – one which is not only sustainable for local needs, but also at the technological frontier that exports AgriTech solutions to the world.</p> <p data-bbox="240 882 528 911"><u>Progress / Outcomes</u></p> <p data-bbox="240 956 1412 1090">The AfA has identified a new platform model that could address the fundamental problem of scale for local production of vegetables. A platform built for the Singapore context could ultimately propagate indoor vertical farming business models (for Asian leafy greens) which are highly productive but may not be sustainable under the current operating environment.</p> <p data-bbox="240 1135 1412 1359">The AfA envisions the platform to be a launchpad to steer the broader industry into action. By charting a possible pathway towards economic viability of indoor vertical farming for Asian leafy greens, the AfA aspires to catalyse a decade of robust industry development within the AgriTech ecosystem – one which comprises a healthy mix of local champions and established global players who contribute to sustainably supporting Singapore's food resilience goals, and are at the technological frontier exporting AgriTech solutions to the world.</p>

SG TOGETHER – DEEP DIVE CONVERSATIONS

The opportunities for participation in these key deep dive conversations are as below.

EMERGING STRONGER CONVERSATIONS – DEEP DIVE	
1.	<p>BUILDING A SINGAPORE THAT IS MADE FOR FAMILIES</p> <p>COVID-19 has challenged couples and families in many ways, affecting our plans to get married, start or grow our families. The Government wants to understand how COVID-19 may have affected your marriage and parenthood journey so that we can build a Singapore that is Made For Families.</p> <p>Ms Indranee Rajah, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office, and Ms Sun Xueling, Minister of State for Social and Family Development, and Education, will be leading a series of conversations from April to September 2021 with individuals to better understand their experiences and thoughts on getting married and raising families. The conversations will also explore what new challenges or opportunities have arisen as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how this has affected their aspirations and priorities.</p> <p>Your views matter. Let’s work together to build a society that’s Made for Families!</p> <p>Sign up at: www.reach.gov.sg/participate/emerging-stronger-conversations-building-a-singapore-that-is-made-for-families</p>
2.	<p>GREEN PLAN CONVERSATIONS – SINGAPORE GREEN PLAN 2030</p> <p>In the spirit of the Singapore Together movement, we want to work with Singaporeans and partners to learn from our collective experience and expertise, and to take action together. As part of this national engagement process, the Ministries spearheading the Green Plan will be organising a series of Green Plan Conversations to hear your views on how we can work together to ensure that Singapore remains a green and liveable home.</p> <p>More details of the Conversations can be found at www.greenplan.gov.sg.</p>
UPDATES	
3.	<p>CONVERSATIONS ON SINGAPORE WOMEN’S DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Our Singapore women have made tremendous progress over the years, with the support of the community and the Government. They are highly valued – but more can be done collectively to support, protect and uplift women.</p> <p>While fundamentals of our current legislation and policies remain strong, the Government continues to look ahead to understand the aspirations and needs of our Singapore women, and to ensure our laws and policies evolve with time.</p> <p>Since September 2020, the Government has organised a series of Conversations on Singapore Women’s Development, together with various community partners. They include the Singapore Council of Women’s Organisations, NTUC Women and Family Unit, People’s Association Women Integration Network Council and the National Youth Council.</p>

This initiative is co-led by Ms Sun Xueling, Minister of State for Social and Family Development, and Education, Ms Low Yen Ling, Minister of State for Culture, Community and Youth, and Trade and Industry, and Ms Rahayu Mahzam, Parliamentary Secretary for Communications and Information, and Health.

Thus far, we have organised over 100 conversations with several thousand participants from all walks of life to understand the aspirations of Singaporeans for our women and the mindset changes required for the further advancement of Singapore women. Singaporeans may also visit go.gov.sg/sgwomen to submit your feedback.

Feedback from the Conversations will be consolidated into a White Paper, which will be tabled in Parliament.