

ISSUE #24 (30 April 2018)



Welcome to the Office of Student Community Engagement's fortnightly update.

"Towards a zero-waste nation" is listed as one of the five broad areas under the [Sustainable Blueprint 2015](#), which contains a series of environmental goals to be met by 2030. To address the issue of waste, the [recycling goal is to hit a national rate of 70%](#).

Singapore's [National Recycling Programme](#) was launched in 2001 to carry out fortnightly collections of recyclables. Since 2014, all new public housing developments launched have been fitted with dual chutes for refuse and recyclables. Public waste collectors also carry out [Cash For Trash](#) collections where residents can exchange recyclable items for cash.

The [National Environment Agency](#) reported that Singapore generated [7.7 million tonnes of solid waste in 2017](#), down from 7.81 million tonnes in 2016. However, the overall recycling rate remained at 61%.

"The purpose – where I start – is the idea of use. It is not recycling, it is reuse." – Issey Miyake

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Singapore's first zero-waste grocery store

Social enterprise UnPackt will encourage shoppers to bring their own containers by selling goods without any packaging. Singapore produced 800 million kilograms of plastic waste in 2017, most of which is packaging. Read [more...](#)

New green method to strengthen buildings

NUS team turns wood waste into biochar, which makes concrete stronger and more impermeable. Read [more...](#)

Online shopping scheme to cut food waste on trial

A scheme that aims to help shops reduce wastage and offer cheaper food to lower-income families will be trialled in Little India. Shop owners in the area who have goods like fruit and vegetables that are close to their expiry date can put them up for sale on a website. Read [more...](#)

No plastic straws at this food court

Organisations, eateries and individuals are cutting down on waste by adopting the reduce, re-use and recycle policy. Singapore also now has its first plastic straw-free food court – the Koufu food court at Singapore Management University. Read [more...](#)



DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS: MISSING MAPS MAPATHON 2018

[Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#) (also known as Doctors Without Borders) is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organisation that delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, natural disasters and exclusion from healthcare.

Get involved and be connected to one of the biggest projects in the world. Learn how to digitally map areas where humanitarian organisations are trying to meet the needs of vulnerable people. Meet with the humanitarian field workers and learn from their frontline experience.

No experience is required. Participants will need to bring their own laptop and mouse. Limited slots available.

- **When:** 5 May 2018, 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (morning session) or 2.30 pm - 6.00 pm (afternoon session)
- **Where:** Clinical Sciences Building, Level 5, Learning Studio (11 Mandalay Road, Singapore 308232)
- **Cost:** Free (prior registration is required)

To register for the morning session, click [here](#).

To register for the afternoon session, click [here](#).

For enquiries, please email directly to events.sg@singapore.msf.org. The last day of registration is **4 May 2018**.



Do you have a passion for seniors and youths?

[Calvary Community Care \(C3\)](#) is a not-for-profit Voluntary Welfare Organisation that seeks to serve the needy in the community regardless of race, age, gender or religion. They are recruiting student volunteers for each of their programmes:

1. Befriending (Seniors)

Volunteers will be paired and assigned a senior to befriend through weekly home visits, games and craft activities. Minimum commitment is 6 months or more.

2. Youth Planner/Facilitator

Volunteers will plan programmes and activities for youths as part of a structured drop-in activity to encourage bonding, imparting of values or skills to youths. These will take place at [MACE](#), an after-school Youth Activity Centre in secondary schools.

3. Fundraising

Join the fundraising team to brainstorm effective ways and ideas to raise donations online, leveraging on social media platforms. Students with background in mass communications, design, marketing or with an interest in this area are all welcome!

Interested in any of the opportunities above? Visit [here](#) or email Cheryl at cherylyeo@calvary.org.sg to register your interest. The last day of registration is **31 May 2018**.



[Free Hugs SG](#) promotes positive interactions with the migrant community in Singapore. It aims to reduce the expenses of migrant workers and increase their savings through activities such as free haircuts and rescued food redistribution.

Through this [Groundup Sandbox](#) project, Free Hugs SG rescues food that would have been discarded due to cosmetic reasons and redistribute these rescued food to dormitories on a weekly basis. In six redistributions, the team has distributed more than 100kg of food.

- **When:** 22 April - 31 December 2018 (every Sunday), 12.00 pm - 3.00 pm
- **Where:** 810 Hougang Central, Singapore 530810 (collection point) & 39 Kaki Bukit Avenue 3, Singapore 415920 (distribution point)

Volunteers roles include drivers (own personal vehicle) and vegetable collectors.

Contact Junxian at 9823 6322 to register your interest. The last day of registration is **30 November 2018**.



Embarking on your own volunteer activity or social advocacy project?

The CoLab4Good Fund seeks to support meaningful ground-up initiatives. Find out more [here](#).



DBS-NUS SOCIAL VENTURE CHALLENGE ASIA

Do you have a business solution that can significantly improve the community around you in a sustainable manner? The [DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia](#) is back, to propel your ideas and ventures into the limelight they deserve!

Aspiring and early stage entrepreneurs who are passionate and leverage on their innovative business solutions (be it product, service or processes) to solve social issues and create positive and sustainable social impact in Asia, are encouraged to apply. A total award money of over S\$100,000 to be won!

Finalists will be invited to a four-day finale programme in Singapore, where you can network with industry experts and impact funders, attend a one-day Special Boot-Camp training, and more!

Click [here](#) to read more and apply. The last day of application is **6 May 2018**.



Upcoming Events



FUTURE CITY – TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The individual and community can play a role in achieving the sustainable development goals through collaborative partnership. Join local makers such as [Engineering Good](#) to understand the tools and resources available for one to leverage on the growing maker movement to be part of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

- **When:** 1 May 2018, 8.30 am - 6.00 pm
- **Where:** The Istana (Orchard Road Singapore 238823)
- **Cost:** Free for Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents. Other visitors pay \$2 per person.

Pre-register [here](#) to receive a token upon arrival to the site (*while stocks last*).



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP 101

A social enterprise is, like any normal business structure, created to generate profits for the organisation. However, unlike a traditional company, it seeks to address certain social issues with extraordinary ideas and solutions.

Organised by [Make The Change](#), participants in this workshop will be introduced to the various types of social enterprises, case studies on innovative ways to solve social problems, measuring social impact, different ways to get funding and much more about being an entrepreneur of a social enterprise. This is a hands-on workshop that will build on your dreams and help you get things started.

- **When:** 18 May 2018, 3.00 pm - 6.00 pm
- **Where:** M.A.D. School (30 Merchant Road, Riverside Point, #03-22, Singapore 058282)
- **Cost:** \$8.50

Click [here](#) to register your interest. Last day of registration is **17 May 2018**.



SOCIAL ICON 2018

Organised by the [Lien Centre for Social Innovation](#), the *Social iCon* (innovation conference) places its spotlight on women and innovations in education, employment, environment and economic inclusion. Facing challenges in these key areas is critical for creating an equitable and sustainable future for all.

The conference aims to bring together a diversity of practitioners, policy-makers, researchers and trailblazers from around Southeast Asia to catalyse impactful solutions to social issues.

- **When:** 18 May 2018, 8.00 am - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** SMU School of Law (55 Armenian Street, Singapore 179943)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to read more and [here](#) to register your interest. Last day of registration is **18 May 2018**.



Others

INAUGURAL IHL-SPED-F&B
SOCIAL CHALLENGE 2018



Every F&B Outlet An Inclusive Outlet

MAKE A DIFFERENCE GROUND-UP! SOCIAL CHALLENGE 2018 – INFORMATION SESSION

Organised by [BevEat](#), [ActiveSG](#) and [Giving.sg](#), this information session aims to shed light on the work integration challenges faced by Persons with Disabilities (PWD)/Special Needs in the Food and Beverage sector; challenges faced by charities in sustaining donations for their social missions; how youths can play a very important role via this social challenge to co-create a first-of-its-kind giving and inclusive ground-up economy to alleviate these social challenges; and co-create freelance/portfolio/start-up opportunities for youths.

- **When:** 12 May 2018, 9.30 am - 12.00 pm
- **Where:** Enabling Village, Hall 2 (20 Lengkok Bahru, Singapore 159053)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to register your interest.

For enquiries, please email directly to contact.beveat@gmail.com. Last day of registration is **10 May 2018**.

Student Community Engagement aims to empower students to make a difference through positive social actions. We provide students access to opportunities such as grants for their ground-up initiatives and social entrepreneurship efforts, internships at non-profit organisations, and training programmes to develop community leadership skills.

We believe that young people have a critical role to play in building a better world for themselves and the community.

Established in 2015, we are part of the Student and Academic Services Department at NTU. More information at <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/sasd/communityengagement>.

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