



**SOUTH WEST  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL**



**SWEDCHAM**  
Swedish Chamber of Commerce Singapore

**EMBARGOED UNTIL THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023, 10.00AM**

6 June 2023

## **BUKIT BATOK RESIDENTS, SWEDISH MNCS & LOCAL SMES JOIN HANDS TO LAUNCH A GREEN INNOVATION CENTRE IN THE HEARTLANDS**

Bukit Batok Community and 13 Swedish businesses have joined forces to launch the Bukit Batok Green Innovation Centre at Bukit Batok Zone 2 Residents' Network (RN) Cosy Garden, the first of its kind. This **unique partnership between Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations, South West Community Development Council (CDC) and Swedish Chamber of Commerce (SwedCham) Singapore** aims to promote and showcase sustainable urban living and practices to support the Singapore Green Plan 2030.

2 As the **first pilot Green Innovation Centre in the South West District**, this collaboration is a joint effort to transform the existing Cosy Garden, *a well-established community garden in Bukit Batok that has been lovingly built by residents and local volunteers over the past decade*, into a hub to inspire local community to learn and discover more on sustainable living. Guest of Honour, Ms Low Yen Ling, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry & Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Mayor of South West District together with Host Adviser, Mr Murali Pillai, Adviser to Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations (GROs), will launch the centre on **Thursday, 8 June 2023, at 10.00am**.

3 The launch will showcase the key features of the centre which include *rainwater harvesting, smart pest control, therapeutic gardening, implementation of low carbon pathways, installation of a solar energy loop and circular solutions such as an outdoor living room built from recycled materials*. This unique collaborative initiative is made possible through the sponsorship of 13 Swedish Multinational Corporations (MNCs) linked by SwedCham. Following the launch, the partners together with RN volunteers and gardeners will organise a series of community workshops on *packaging recycling, circular fashion and healthy eating & food waste* over the coming months.

4 Calling it a step forward for sustainable living in the heartlands, Mayor Low Yen Ling said “This initiative demonstrates the collaborative power of the 3Ps – People, Public and Private - coming together to drive and promote greater sustainability in the heartlands. Together, South West CDC, members of SwedCham, Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations and students from our district have turned the community garden into a living model of sustainability for residents to see, touch and experience for themselves. Concepts such as a closed energy loop and circular economy are brought alive by the installation of new features such as solar panels and a rainwater harvesting system in the garden. In addition, educational eco workshops will equip residents to pursue a more eco-friendly lifestyle.”

5 Mayor Low added that the new Green Innovation Centre in Bukit Batok’s Cosy Garden was aligned with the Singapore Green Plan 2030 and Sustainable South West Masterplan. She said, “We hope this successful initiative will serve as a blueprint for more such community gardens in our district as we work towards shaping a greener and more sustainable Singapore.”

6 President of Swedish Chamber of Commerce Singapore and Vice-President Holding SEA & Oceania, Atlas Copco, Mr Horst Wasel shared, “At the heart of this project is the firm belief in partnerships to drive change. We will only manage to build a sustainable future by coming together. Individually, we can take small steps, but when we do it side by side with others, we have the opportunity to make more meaningful change. This is about setting an example of how businesses, governments, and people can join forces to make a tangible difference.”

7 Your journalist, camera crew and photographer are cordially invited to cover the Launch of Bukit Batok Green Innovation Centre on **Thursday, 8 June 2023, 9.45am at Pavilion at Block 105A Bukit Batok Central & Bukit Batok Zone 2 RN Cosy Garden next Block 106 Bukit Batok Central**. The programme and location map are attached at the Annexes A and B, respectively. Interviews with Mayor, Grassroots Adviser and community and business partners can be arranged, upon request. **We would appreciate it if you can send the questions prior to the event. Please RSVP your attendance with the contact person below by Wednesday, 7 June 2023, 12.00pm.**

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#### **About People's Association**

The [People's Association](#) (PA) is a statutory board established on 1 July 1960 to promote racial harmony and social cohesion, and to act as a bridge between the Government and the people. We offer a wide range of community [programmes](#) and volunteering opportunities for Singaporeans from all walks of life. Our network includes close to 2,000 [Grassroots Organisations](#) (GROs), over 100 Community Clubs, five Community Development Councils, National Community Leadership Institute and PAssion WaVe. More information at [www.pa.gov.sg](http://www.pa.gov.sg).

#### **About the South West Community Development Council**

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to build a caring and cohesive community where we Aggregate Resources and Needs; Build Capabilities of Partners & Residents, and Connect Stakeholders

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The South West CDC also organises projects and programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. The South West CDC adopts the "Many Helping Hands" approach to encourage community ownership among residents, community partners and corporations to realise its vision of "Owning Your Community".

Ms Low Yen Ling was appointed the Mayor of South West District on 27 May 2014. Ms Low is also the Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) & Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) & Adviser to Chua Chu Kang GRC.

For more information, please visit: [www.southwest.cdc.gov.sg](http://www.southwest.cdc.gov.sg)

## About SwedCham

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, SwedCham, is a non-profit, non-governmental membership-based organization representing Swedish businesses in Singapore. Established more than 40 years ago, SwedCham serves a broad and diverse network of 500+ active members and 85 member companies, ranging from large multinational corporations to SMEs and start-ups from many different industries. Together with their big fleet of Swedish MNCs and start-ups, the organisation promotes innovation, technology, sustainability, entrepreneurship, and diversity in everything it does. Through its activities, SwedCham provides a dynamic and innovative platform for knowledge-sharing, business development, and networking. They are one of the most active international Chambers in Singapore and has through various innovative local outreach initiatives created an even stronger connection to important Singaporean stakeholders.

## About Bukit Batok Zone 2 RN Cosy Garden

The Cosy Garden, which started in 1994, is a community garden in Bukit Batok, managed by a group of dynamic resident's volunteers and supported by Bukit Batok Zone 2 RN. The garden provides a peaceful and serene oasis amidst the bustling city, inviting visitors to connect with nature and find a respite from the busy urban environment. Cosy Garden is more than just a place to enjoy the beauty of nature; it also serves as a hub for sustainable living solutions, encouraging visitors to discover ways to reduce their environmental impact and live more sustainably. The volunteers are committed to making Cosy Garden a vibrant and welcoming space that promotes community engagement and fosters a deeper appreciation for nature and sustainable living. Using the harvest produce, the Cosy Garden is also committed to educate the younger generation to learn about the importance of agriculture, the nutritional benefits of eating vegetables and fruits and to develop their love for gardening through collaboration with the local childcare centres and kindergartens to conduct education tours and workshops.

## About the Green Innovation Centre

Through this unique collaborative initiative, sponsored by 13 Swedish MNCs, SwedCham has linked arms with a garden community in Bukit Batok as well as with South West CDC and the People's Association in Bukit Batok. Based on a collaborative bottom-up process, the project aims to work together with the community to explore a sustainable urban lifestyle with knowledge, solutions and services around the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse & Recycle) and green living (gardening and connecting with nature).

Together with sustainability-focused local SMEs, schools and resident volunteers, the aim is to create an agora at the Cosy Garden, which local volunteers have lovingly built over the past decade, where people of all ages can meet and learn about sustainable urban living. The hope is that this innovative program will replicate and encourage more people and companies to get involved in the important work of advancing SG Green Plan 2030. Through partnership and collaboration between businesses and communities, we can, no doubt, make it happen.

The Green Innovation Centre is the result of a multi-stakeholder partnership between Swedish MNCs, local SMEs, local authorities and the community.

## PARTNERS

### People's Association:

- South West Community Development Council
- Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations

### Local Community:

- Bukit Batok Zone 2 RN Cosy Garden
- Bukit Batok Secondary School
- Princess Elizabeth Primary School
- Queenstown Secondary School
- Fuhua Secondary School

### SMEs:

- 10 Degree Solar
- Dilucidar
- Green Sproutz Singapore
- Hortherapeutics
- Hydro Dynamic
- Pan-United
- reXtore
- susGain
- Tulya

### MNC Sponsors:

- ABB
- Anticimex

- AstraZeneca
- H&M
- Hexagon
- Atlas Copco
- Axis Communications
- Electrolux
- Nöjdhs
- Saab
- Securitas
- Tetra Pak
- Volvo

**LAUNCH OF BUKIT BATOK GREEN INNOVATION CENTRE  
THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023  
PAVILION, BLOCK 105A BUKIT BATOK CENTRAL & BUKIT BATOK ZONE 2 RN  
COSY GARDEN NEXT TO BLOCK 106 BUKIT BATOK CENTRAL**

**PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<b>Location: Pavilion, Block 105A Bukit Batok Central</b>	
9.30am	Arrival of Invited Guests
9.50am	Arrival of Ms Jenny Egermark, Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of Sweden
	Arrival of Host Adviser, Mr Murali Pillai, Adviser to Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations
9.55am	Arrival of Guest of Honour, Ms Low Yen Ling, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry & Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Mayor of South West District
10.00am	Commencement of Event  Screening of Green Innovation Hub Introduction Movie and Welcome Address by Ms Lisa Ferraton, General Manager, SwedCham Singapore
10.15am – 10.25am	Speech by Guest of Honour, Ms Low Yen Ling, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry & Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Mayor of South West District
	Speech by Host Adviser, Mr Murali Pillai, Adviser to Bukit Batok Grassroots Organisations
	Speech by Ms Jenny Egermark, Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of Sweden
<b>Location: Bukit Batok Zone 2 RN Cosy Garden next to Block 106 Bukit Batok Central</b>	
10.30am	Launch of Bukit Batok Green Innovation Centre and Tour of Garden  <i>[Photo Opportunity]</i>
10.40am	Tour of the stations in Green Innovation Hub
11.00am	End of Programme

**LOCATION MAP OF  
PAVILION, BLOCK 105A BUKIT BATOK CENTRAL & BUKIT BATOK ZONE 2 RN  
COSY GARDEN NEXT TO BLOCK 106 BUKIT BATOK CENTRAL**

