



Green Pulse

A Publication from **Green in Future Pte Ltd.**, Singapore

Volume 1 Issue 2 • MAY 2017 • www.greeninfuture.com



Vincom Landmark 81 Tower Landscape

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

4 COVER STORY



Vincom
Landmark
81 Tower
Landscape
Ho Chi Minh
City, Vietnam

8 FACE TO FACE



Mr. Ronnie
Tan

President,
Singapore Institute
of Landscape
Architects (SILA)

11 PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER SERIES

**Ecological Networks:
A Holistic Approach
to Urban Biodiversity
Conservation**

12 EVENT UPDATE

Celebrating Build Eco Xpo Asia's
**Decade-long Journey
Towards A Green
Future Worth Building**

Credits:

Editor: editor@greeninfuture.com

Design and Production: design@greeninfuture.com

Marketing: anchana@greeninfuture.com

Business Development: info@greeninfuture.com



CITIES OF *Love*

AWARDS 2017

DEVELOPED BY

INCEPTION

SUPPORTED BY



IN SUPPORT OF



Vincom Landmark 81 Tower Landscape

➤ Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



The Landscape design for Vincom Landmark 81 Tower aims to deliver a dynamic, contextual as well as integrated public realm that addresses sustainable design challenges at various interfaces of the project and complements the iconic architecture.

Working seamlessly with architects and engineers, the landscape team ensured a symbiosis of natural and built elements that results in a successful design approach for plazas and podium areas.

Undoubtedly, the project's public realm will become the focus for the urban community of HCMC and we've therefore provided a strong narrative that combines client's brief with the programs that are expected from the diverse users of the space.





A contemporary and integrated landscape design language is utilised which provides a distinct visual character and remains responsive to the various social and commercial needs of the development.



Clover Story

The Public realm around the tower accommodates a range of spaces for residents, shoppers and arriving hotel guests. Various interactive water features will catch the attention and provide a sense of place. The lush and random layout of trees in combination with the sound of water, will create a pleasant and calm atmosphere within downtown Ho Chi Minh City.

Large canopy trees provide abundant shading during warm and sunny days while they also provide an intimate atmosphere and reinforce the identity of the open space.

A contemporary and integrated landscape design is extended to all levels of the development and remains responsive to it's various social and commercial needs.

Outdoor lounges are provided on the podium landscape and compliment to the various hotel facilities such as outdoor pools and bar area.

The VIP residential units have an exclusive outdoor terrace with infinity pool which is seamlessly integrated with the architecture language of the building.

The overall landscape program provides a diverse range of spaces and facilities, complementing the architectural form and gives the development a distinct identity.

The Hong Kong based landscape team has also been invited to extend their scope into the supervision of the construction works to ensure a successful compliance of the design.





Mr. RONNIE TAN

President, Singapore Institute of Landscape Architects (SILA)

Tell us briefly about your career as an Environmental Design Educator?

Currently, I teach for the 'Diploma in Environment Design' programme, a course that integrates architecture, landscape architecture and urban design at Temasek Polytechnic School of Design. I help to front the landscape architecture and sustainability side of the programme

for the team. The journey has been great so far as I know I am playing my part in moulding future landscape architects and architects who care for the environment.

Tell us about your current role as the president of SILA and your future plans and goals?

Being the president of SILA, I fill a multitude of roles. Firstly being a representative for the Landscape Architecture profession in Singapore and as the national delegate to the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA). I chair the Landscape Architects Accreditation Advisory Committee and am also a member of the Future Economy Council (FEC) Built Environment (BE) Cluster Subcommittee.

In my capacity as an educator, I also chair SILA's Education and Research Strategic Thrust. The other thrusts, Business Development and Professional Development, are chaired by my Vice-Presidents respectively.

SILA is currently consolidating our growth in preparation for the IFLA World Congress that will be organized on our shores in 2018. This will be the major event in SILA's calendar where we welcome fellow practitioners, academics and friends from all over the world to the island for a unique Singapore experience and hearty discussion.

I also envision the continued growth of LA Future. It is our youth arm independently run by our young graduates and students. They regularly conduct programmes such as networking sessions, talks by senior landscape architects and they now organize the international SILA Student Design Awards too. This is the group to watch out for as they will form the future core of the profession.

How do you perceive the emerging new technologies and its impact on the Sustainable landscape design?

It is definitely exciting looking forward to how emerging technologies will influence, how things work in the industry. Take for example, while BIM is quite established for architecture, there is still much more scope for growth and exploration of it in landscape architecture applications. Remote sensing is another tool on the horizon to help in surveys and our understanding of how the broader landscape works.

Do you think that, the upcoming years has the most potential for landscape architecture?

I think we will still see continued growth in PUB's ABC Waters projects and the proliferation of skyrise greenery where landscape architects' skills and expertise will be tapped onto take the country further towards the City in a Garden vision.

Service buyers such as government agencies and developers are now calling for a more integrated design approach with other disciplines and a need for landscape architecture to be incorporated early in the design process. This will allow for Design for Safety & Maintenance, Health and Safety, appropriate plant selection and soil depth etc., to be designed and incorporated early into any development project.

There are also opportunities apart from just that of aesthetical and anthropocentric design, but also in terms of designing for ecosystem services. In trying to achieve permeability of urban spaces and our natural environment, it is imperative





to conserve biodiversity and seek to provide environmental education opportunities.

Share your views on sustainability and landscape design?

Someone once commented that landscape architects are primarily tree-huggers who can draw. We are intrinsically already in the business of making the world a better and sustainable place. But there is more that we can do. As mentioned earlier, we should not just be churning out aesthetically pleasing works for ourselves but also to bear in mind the other small little creatures we share the environment with.

Tell us briefly about one of your favorite projects and why?

More recently it has to be the Singapore Botanic Gardens' Learning Forest. Not just because I was

previously part of the consultant team, but more so because I can see a genuine appreciation for the place by all stakeholders and public alike. Despite all the challenges on the project, it was exhilarating when the project was finally completed and opened by PM Lee. The Learning Forest now provides an education and research centric western buffer to the World Heritage Site and complements the rest of the historic gardens by adding an enjoyable universally accessible public space for all.

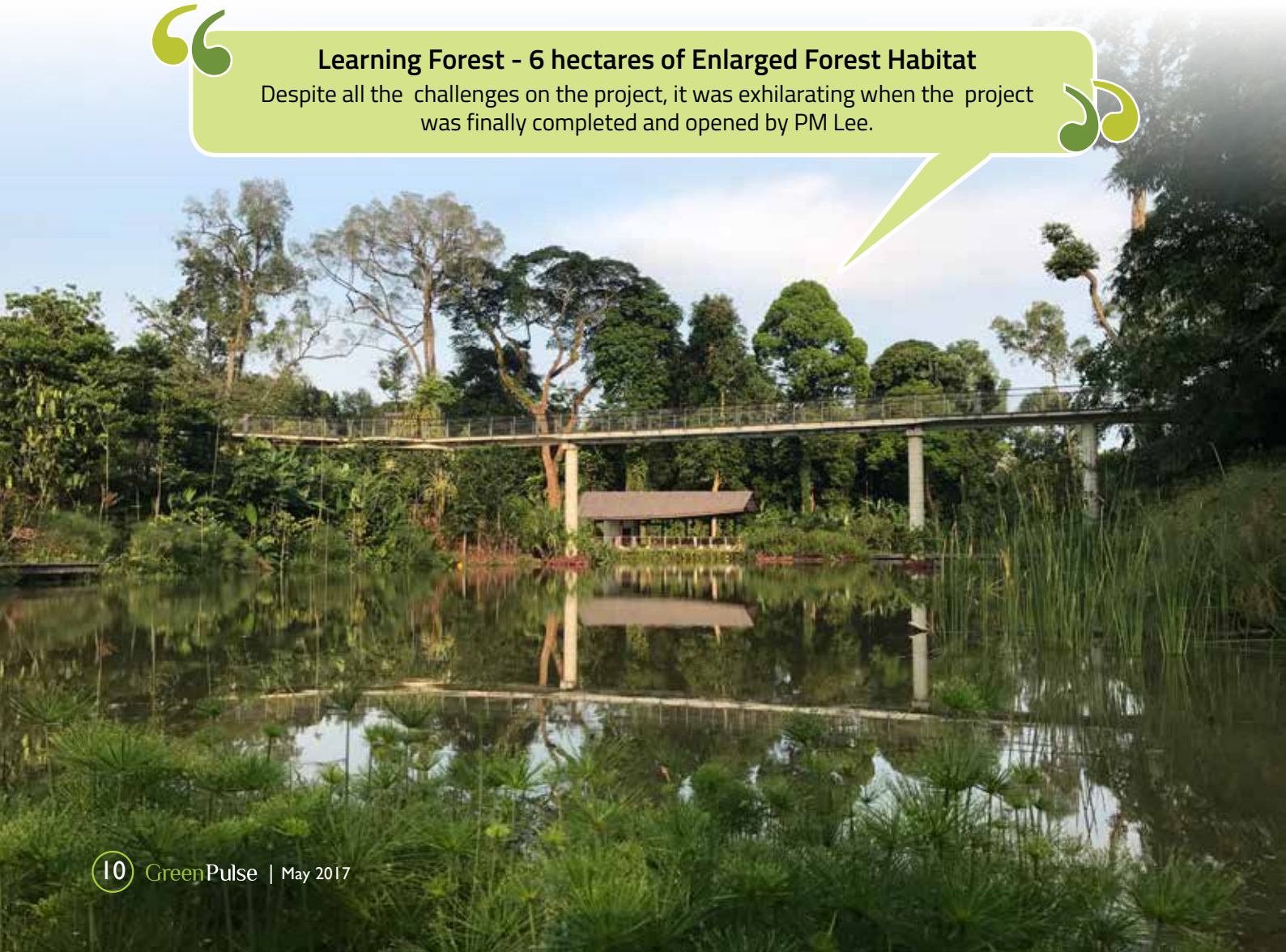
What will be your advice to the aspiring environmental design students ?

Learn to love learning. One aspect of the profession I appreciate is the opportunity and scope to learn new things all the time. The discipline is broad, encompassing ecology, horticulture, architecture, urban design, user experience etc. Deepen and hone your core set of skills and knowledge but broaden your know-how to other fields as well.



Learning Forest - 6 hectares of Enlarged Forest Habitat

Despite all the challenges on the project, it was exhilarating when the project was finally completed and opened by PM Lee.





Ecological Networks: A Holistic Approach to Urban Biodiversity Conservation

As part of the Professional Speaker Series organised by the Centre for Urban Greenery and Ecology (CUGE), NParks, Dr Abdul Rahim presented his doctoral dissertation on Urban Ecological Networks. Entitled as “Ecological Networks: A Holistic Approach to Urban Biodiversity Conservation”, the seminar was held at the Botany Centre, Singapore Botanic Gardens, on 26 April 2017. His research has been published by Springer recently as a book chapter in “Greening Cities: Forms and Functions”, edited by his dissertation supervisor, Prof Jim Chi Yung, Associate Professor, Tan Puay Yok.

The ecological network concept is not new, but it has predominantly been applied to temperate regions such as European and American states, using a single taxonomic group to model the network, and to agricultural landscapes. The novelty to Dr Hamid’s research is both in its methodology, and in the context of the application of the concept to highly urbanised areas and cities that

are of high-density and compact morphology. It is also significant at a time when cities are beginning to recognise the need for urban biodiversity conservation in their strategic planning, within the context of the Decade on Biodiversity declared by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Using Geographic Information Systems, statistics, Multi-Criteria Decision Making (MDCA), and both top-down and bottom-up approaches to biodiversity conservation, Dr Hamid synthesises the work of multiple researchers to operationalize the concept to urbanised areas and cities. Singapore, a high-density compact city situated within a biodiversity hotspot in a tropical biome, was the case-study for his research. He delved into realm of spatial and computational thinking (deductive) in modelling the ecological network, while applying planning and design thinking (inductive) in his current project where he seeks to implement the network through partnering with NParks and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).





Celebrating Build Eco Xpo Asia's Decade-long Journey Towards A Green Future Worth Building

Returning in its tenth edition, the upcoming Build Eco Xpo (BEX) Asia 2017 will be held at Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre Singapore from 12 to 14 September 2017. In celebration of BEX Asia's decade-long journey in inspiring greener transformation among the building community across Southeast Asia, BEX Asia 2017 has lined up these exciting changes: the new Smart Solutions feature area; Technology-powered personalized recommendations and business meetings, as well as the launch of our online learning resource center, all of which are underpinned by a refreshed logo and theme. BEX Asia 2017 and its co-located events are expected to play host to more than 450 exhibiting companies internationally and over 12,000 trade visitors across Southeast Asia.

A Green Future Worth Building: Unveiling our new theme and logo for the 10th edition of BEX Asia

Against the background of rapid urbanization and buildings' growing importance in driving a sustainable future, BEX Asia's new theme is "A Green Future Worth Building" which is also accompanied by a refreshed logo. "We are proud to be celebrating BEX Asia's decade-long journey as Southeast Asia's pinnacle tradeshow where the regional green building community gather to source, learn, network and create real change. In partnership with key industry stakeholders, we will continue to deliver inspiring content and marketing leads to the sustainable building and construction community regionally, as well as build meaningful bridges within," said Ms Louise Chua, Project Director of BEX Asia and Business

Development, Reed Exhibitions.

Here's to a smarter future

BEX Asia 2017 introduces a new Smart Solutions feature area showcasing the latest technologies that accelerate automation and provide actionable insights that drive greater efficiency and lower building management costs. It will cover a spectrum of interconnected segments including 'Internet of Things', building and lighting controls, HVAC optimization, access & security controls, electrical network controls and more. Exhibiting companies include Belimo Actuators¹, Delta Energy Systems, DEOS AG¹, Enovatek Energy, Graesslin, M5 FE Enterprise, Socomec Asia Pacific, Reliable Controls¹, Tridium Asia Pacific¹ and more.

The next stage of business matching: Technology-powered, personalized recommendations and meetings

Instead of pushing the same product news generally to every pre-registered visitor, BEX Asia 2017 will deliver personalized recommendations of exhibitor products, based on data insights gleaned from visitors. The last edition of BEX Asia and the co-located MCE Asia, together facilitated a total of 373 business meetings onsite, which are expected to generate more than US\$130 million in green building transactions.

Knowledge is power

In partnership with leading green building experts who spoke at BEX Asia's complimentary Green View seminars, BEX Asia 2017 has launched the online Learning Resource Center where the building community can easily access

¹ refers to exhibiting companies from the co-located Mostra Convegno Expocomfort (MCE) Asia

complimentary industry content that help keep them abreast of the latest green building know-how and trends.

Converging the biggest brands across the globe

As Southeast Asia's leading green building exhibition, BEX Asia 2017 has already secured the participation of green building giants like Big Ass Fans, Camfil, Kansai Paint, Nippon Paint and PAREX Group. Visitors will also get to see the latest cutting-edge technologies from AGC Asia Pacific, AAF, Ariston Thermo, ebm-papst and Reflex Winkelmann, which will be exhibiting at Mostra Convegno Expocomfort (MCE) Asia 2017, a co-located exhibition focusing on energy-efficient HVAC, Water and Solar Energy solutions. Pavilions representing Canada, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and more will also bring together an inspiring showcase of the most cutting edge technologies and capabilities from each market.

To advance further knowledge exchange, BEX Asia 2017 will once again offer the Green View seminar, a complimentary platform which brings together the brightest minds internationally to share their insights on latest trends and opportunities in Southeast Asia, actionable best practices and innovative solutions for building management in the tropics.

More updates on other activities celebrating BEX Asia's 10th year anniversary will be announced in the lead up to the event.

Supported by prominent industry organisations like the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore and the Singapore Green Building Council, BEX Asia 2017 is one of the anchor trade events of the Singapore Green Building Week (SGBW). BEX Asia 2017 will be held alongside the third edition of MCE Asia, and the International Green Building Conference (IGBC).

Upcoming GREEN Events:

World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2017

05-07 June 2017

Hong Kong

- www.wsbe17hongkong.hk/wsbe17-hongkong

Landscape Institute Conference 2017

22-23 June 2017

Manchester Metropolitan University

- www.landscapeinstitute.org

BEX  **ASIA**

Bex Asia 2017

12-14 September 2017

Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

- www.bex-asia.com/

ISOCARP-OAPA/53rd ISOCARP Congress

24-27 October 2017

Portland, Oregon, USA

- <http://iflaonline.org/events/>

IFLA World Congress 2017

15 - 16 October 2017

Montreal, Canada

- <http://iflaonline.org/event/world-design-summit-montreal/#more-13776>

IFLA Asia Pacific Regional Congress,

02-05 November 2017

Bangkok, Thailand

- www.2017iflaapr.com

Urban Scape Asia 2017

09 - 11 November 2017

Singapore EXPO Convention and Exhibition Centre

- www.greenurbanscapeasia.com