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# Media Release



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19 March 2019

News Editor

## YOUTH SPEAK UP FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

- Youth get the opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions in a focus group discussion to shape South West District's green masterplan
- New Waste-to-Games segment in line with Year of Zero Waste to create games from reusable materials

Youth get to contribute their say on environmental issues and what the district can do, through a series of focus group discussions (FGD) for the South West District's next 10-year sustainability masterplan. The opportunity to participate in a FGD for the new ECo Plan South West will be open to young green leaders under Green Schools @ South West, where about 10 secondary school students will take part in the FGD held tomorrow on 20 March 2019.

2 The ECo Plan South West (short for **E**nvironment & **C**ommunity Plan South West), introduced in 2009 with the aim of building a **Cool, Clean, Green, Caring** and **Proactive** community and the theme of 'Tomorrow Starts Today', will be coming to a close after 10 years of guiding environmental efforts and programmes in the South West District. In preparation for its conclusion, a new sustainability masterplan will be charted for the next decade. Under the 10-year ECo Plan South West, the South West CDC has successfully rolled out 90 programmes in the district and reached out

to over 716,000 residents on an annual basis, made possible through the support from our volunteers, schools, community and corporate partners.

3 The FGD will be held at a training camp for young green leaders, or Junior Environmental Ambassadors (JEA), under **Green Schools @ South West**. Organised by the South West Community Development Council (CDC) and National Environment Agency, the programme promotes environmental responsibility and co-ownership among youth in the South West District with a tailored curriculum to kick-start their eco-journey.

### **Waste minimisation in the spotlight**

4 With 2019 as the Year of Zero Waste, a new “Waste to Games” activity will be introduced to reinforce waste minimisation. The JEAs will brainstorm and create board game prototypes from a stipulated bag of reusable materials as inspiration, and will be trying their hand at the activity on 20 March 2019 at the Green Schools @ South West 2019 Launch and Appointment Ceremony. This hands-on activity enhances the experiential learning for the JEAs and instils the message that what we may see as trash still has value.

5 Mayor of South West District Ms Low Yen Ling says, “Our youth are instrumental in leading the change we need for a sustainable future. We welcome their insights and ideas for our district’s green plans. Through the training camp, we hope to equip our young people with practical skills to spearhead green initiatives in their schools and the community. Their leadership and ownership of the environment will drive our continued fight against climate change.”

6 Green Schools @ South West, which was launched in 2007, has reached out to more than 40 schools and more than 30,000 youths annually in the district. Close to 350 JEAs from 40 Green Schools @ South West will be taking part in this year’s boot camp.

7 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : Green Schools @ South West 2019 Launch and Appointment Ceremony

Date : Wednesday, 20 March 2019

Time : 10.00 am to 11.30 am **(Media is invited at 9.50 am)**

Venue : Science Centre Singapore  
15 Science Centre Road  
Singapore 609081

Guest of : Mr Ang Wei Neng

Honour Vice-Chairman of South West CDC and Adviser to Jurong GRC GROs (Jurong Central)

8 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to the **Green Schools @ South West 2019 Launch and Appointment Ceremony**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

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### **Media Liaison Officers**

Ms Leong Pei Xin  
Manager (Corporate Management & Communications)  
South West Community Development Council  
DID: 6551 9290  
Mobile: 9231 4085  
Email: [Leong\\_Peixin@pa.gov.sg](mailto:Leong_Peixin@pa.gov.sg)

Ms Veldas Lim  
Assistant Manager (Projects Management & Development)  
South West Community Development Council  
DID: 6551 9277  
Mobile: 9297 0837  
Email: [Veldas\\_Lim\\_from.TP@pa.gov.sg](mailto:Veldas_Lim_from.TP@pa.gov.sg)

## PROGRAMME

Time	Programme
9.30 am	Arrival and Registration of Guests
10.00 am	Arrival of Guest of Honour (GOH) Mr Ang Wei Neng Vice-Chairman of South West CDC and Adviser to Jurong GRC GROs (Jurong Central)
10.05 am	Opening Address by GOH
10.15 am	Presentation of Green Schools @ South West 2018 Awards by GOH
10.50 am	Tour of Junior Environmental Ambassadors (JEA) Training Camp Activities - Waste to Games activity - Focus Group Discussion
11.15 am	Reception <i>*Media interview can be arranged upon request</i>

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### About the South West Community Development Council (CDC)

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community.

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The 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".

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