

## Global Social Innovators Forum 2012 - Press Releases

Traditionally, Global Social Innovators Forum has been developed also as a place to launch initiatives. This year we are excited to announce 7 different launches! Here's a short description of each:

### 1. Launch of Global Shapers Community Singapore Hub

Date: 18 Oct 2012, Thursday

Time: 09:20– 09:30

The Global Shapers Community is a network of city-based Hubs developed and led by young leaders between 20 and 30 years old who want to develop their leadership potential towards serving society. To that end, Hubs undertake local projects to improve their communities. Global Shapers Community (GSC) is the newest initiative of the Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF). Started in 2011, it is now found in 178 cities across the world and these Hubs undertake local projects to improve their communities and work towards building a more inclusive, a more sustainable, and a better world. WEF has appointed Ms Penny Low as the Founding Curator of the Singapore Hub. (<http://www.weforum.org/community/global-shapers>)

The Global Shapers Community is one of several multi-stakeholder communities at the World Economic Forum. In Singapore, this initiative is supported by the Social Innovation Park Ltd. While GSIForum 2012 is a signature SIP platform that GSCS collaborates on, the brand new GSIFestival 2012 is co-created by SIP-GSC (Singapore) to reach out to people to raise awareness and collaborations on building an inclusive society.

Global Shapers Community (Singapore) is the nascent local chapter of GSC. Established in March 2012, this junior sub-grouping of WEF comprises young Singaporeans who are exceptional in their potential, their achievements and their drive to make a contribution to their communities. Our shapers intend to improve the state of the world through speeches and deeds of local impact. The Global Social Innovator's Forum (GSIF) 2012 is our maiden project. We are honoured to be organising this GSIF alongside the experienced Social Innovation Park (SIP) staff. To date, 9 Global Shapers have been inducted and we look forward to welcome more Shapers on-board. We will be officially announcing the list of Global Shapers in Singapore, and is on the search for more!

### Namelist of Global Shapers (in alphabetical order)

1. LIM Sinni
2. LIM Yu Huan
3. MAH Yi Xin, Amanda
4. Patrick PANG
5. PHUA Chao Rong, Charles
6. TAN Kai En, Calvin
7. TAN Zhen Lin, Adeline
8. WANG Hongjun
9. WONG Pei Shan

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## 2. Launch of Global Social Innovators Festival + 5 pathways

Date: 18 Oct 2012, Thursday

Time: 09:20– 09:30

GSIFestival is a new platform for community engagement in the form of 10 satellite centres around Singapore, that taps on innovative solutions within the community, for the community. GSIFestival aims to strengthen the social enterprise industry in Singapore by engaging the community to generate bottom-up movements and enhancing existing social enterprises, and increase awareness of the roles that social innovation plays in creating an inclusive society.

Through GSIF, change-makers from different areas of Inclusive Innovation form distinctive communities based on their areas of interest and expertise. We would be introducing 5 different pathways of Inclusive Champions, and they are Inclusive Communities, Inclusive Technologies, Inclusive Environment, Inclusive Enterprises and Inclusive Arts.

Check out our 5 cosy corners of the different pathways at GSIForum venue and find out more here: <http://www.socialinnovatorsforum.org/gsif2012/index.php/gsifest>

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## 3. Launch of Global Social Innovators Festival + Forum Song – ‘Something More’

Date: 18 Oct 2012, Thursday

Time: 09:20– 09:30

"Jean Tan is a local singer-songwriter who writes to encourage and inspire. She volunteers with a non-profit music company Oops! Asia, bringing her music to schools, churches and community events, hoping that her music brings hope and encouragement to others in difficult times. She launched her first album "Dance" in 2010, and her second "Passage" in 2012, comprising self-written songs with influences from folk and jazz.

The theme song for GSIF 2012, 'Something More', hopes to stir of hearts of people to give something more of themselves to others. It celebrates the many who have dedicated their lives and genius to make the world a better one, and urges others to find their true selves in doing the same -- right in the corners where they work, eat, and breathe. The greatest changes come from the littlest differences we can make; the most powerful actions from the simplest desires to give. And there's always something more to do, to love, and to offer, that the places we inhabit become truly inclusive for every person there is."

Read our lyrics here: <http://www.facebook.com/socialinnovatorsforum>

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#### 4. Launch of Palmtop Theatre

Date: 18 Oct 2012, Thursday

Time: 10:45 – 10:55

The palmtop theatre was first unveiled as an idea some 2-3 years ago, and caused quite a stir with a hit rate of more than a million (considered phenomenal in those days) because of its accessibility and ease of use. It literally converts any iPhone into a 3D theatre in a palm! However, as both price and content needs to be developed, the creators have gone quiet after that, and focused on developing a more sophisticated yet affordable product, as well as generating content. Now they are ready! The official global launch will be in November (not in Singapore), but the creators have decided to soft launch it at GSIF 2012. They will be warmed with both device and content to give audience a sneak preview of what's in store!

<http://www.palmtoptheater.com/en/>

#### **Media Contact**

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Creative Director / CEO

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#### 5. Global Dignity Day Singapore Launch

Date: 18 Oct 2012, Thursday

Time: 1400 - 1410

In a day and age where there is so much conflict in the world (between cultures, religions, generations, socioeconomic classes, and more) there is a great need for broad agreement on something unifying, something that encourages and even grows a sense of community. That something is dignity.

Global Dignity Day 2012 builds upon the great success of last year's event during which tens of thousands of youth participated across 25 countries. Young Global Leaders and other volunteers organized events in an effort to instill and inspire a new, more positive, inclusive and interconnected value proposition in students for their lives as they grow into adulthood. In Singapore, we will be reaching out to thousands and sharing these values in schools and thoroughfare shopping malls. Ms Penny Low is the country chair for Singapore.

This event is a global demonstration of the inspirational and inclusive power of dignity. Get ready for Global Dignity Day 2012! <http://www.globaldignity.org/view/global-dignity-day>

#### **Media Contact**

Penny Low

Founder, President

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6. Launch of OpenIDEO Challenge Video

Date: 19 Oct 2012, Friday

Time: 1015 - 1025

National Environment Agency would like to envision how to rejuvenate our local environments to inspire and enable communities to make our living environments better – and are eager to collaborate with the global community to explore solutions which resonate in Singapore and across the world through Open IDEO. Open IDEO and NEA would be launching the challenge video during GSIF 2012! Go online now and join in the challenge “How might we inspire and enable communities to take more initiative in making their local environments better?”

<http://www.openideo.com/open/connected/inspiration/>

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7. Signing of MOU between Larta Institute and Social Innovation Park

Date: 19 Oct 2012, Friday

Time: 1515 - 1525

The Global Social Innovators Forum, beginning today in Singapore, also marks the first step in the presentation of a Memorandum of Understanding between Larta Institute, Los Angeles, and Social Innovation Park, Singapore. The parties have come together to collaboratively embrace and foster technology commercialization and social entrepreneurship as being drivers of a better society and a better world. Larta and SIP have chosen the occasion of the GSIF to sign this MOU which is intended to lead to a formal partnership with concrete programs and initiatives to be presented in due course.

SIP and Larta Institute share a common vision and a commitment to innovation with the potential to impact quality of life and well-being. Larta Institute is a private non-profit organization with the mission of vastly improving the transition of scientific and technological breakthroughs from the lab to the marketplace, where they can better lives and improve wellbeing. [www.larta.org](http://www.larta.org).

Political, financial and social instability are constants in the world we live in today. As our society ages and changes, we are faced with increasingly complex national and international challenges. Social innovation offers an effective and sustainable way to make the world we live in a better place for us and our future generations. In a world where global connectedness is more important than ever, Larta Institute and SIP are excited to be able to work with their new international partners and leverage each other’s networks to further advance education and training oriented to social innovators and social innovation, innovation policy and programs that stimulate new thinking in the creation and management of social entrepreneurship initiatives, commercialization policy and programs.

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8. Signing of MOU between Shunde Social Innovation Centre (SSIC) and Social Innovation Park

You would also witness the signing of MOU between Shunde Social Innovation Centre (SSIC) and Social Innovation Park to share knowledge and capacity development programs to promote social enterprise and social innovation. SSIC is China's first statutory organization specializing in social innovation. Government of Shunde , after field study about the operation of Hongkong and Singapore's statutory bodies, plunge ahead to invest 30 million (approximately\$ 4.7 million) and provide an area of 3000 sq. meters to create SSIC as a pilot project of China to boost social innovation. Singapore Social Innovation Park would be working closely together with SSIC to build a more inclusive, sustainable and better world.

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9. "Practicing Sustainability" book soft launch

"Practicing Sustainability" is a book to be hard launch in United Stated in November and it is going to be soft launched in Singapore during GSIF 2012. This is a global effort that has been in the making for some time, and had many accolades and forward by some big wigs.

**Editorial Reviews**

Praise for Practicing Sustainability:

"Delightful...the chapters are gems of precision and insight."—Michael Spence, Nobel Prize Winner in Economics "This book so aptly demonstrates [that] the concept of sustainability can be applied to many different areas, which could be woven together into a sustainability agenda."—Robert Rubin, Co-Chairman, Council on Foreign Relations, and Former U.S. Secretary of Treasury

"Seminal...a thoughtful and refreshingly different book."—Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum

"Mahatma Gandhi once said 'unsustainable lifestyles and unacceptable poverty should become problems of the past, to achieve harmony with nature and with each other.' Practicing Sustainability not only brings out the relevance of this vision clearly, but also the need to develop better concepts and pathways to achieve that vision."—M.S. Swaminathan, World Food Prize Laureate and Member of Parliament, India

"An enlightening book that demystifies what sustainability really means with a fresh, unusual range of voices and practical insights. Practicing Sustainability should be read by anyone who cares about the future of our planet."—Neal Lane, Former Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the U.S. National Science Foundation.

"In this unique collection, each reader will find three or four sparks—things that will connect with their head or heart or both, and perhaps spur them to real action. It's a necessary book!"—Bill McKibben, Founder, [350.org](http://350.org), and author of The End of Nature, Deep Economy, and Eearth.

“Practicing Sustainability is an engaging and ultimately uplifting kaleidoscope of ideas from the people on the front lines of building a better planet.”—Greg Ip, author of *The Little Book of Economics*

“The popularity of “sustainability” has taken a toll on its meaning—it is too often used as a lofty aspiration or as a vague objective. This book provides a great antidote to this trend. Practicing Sustainability is a must-read for anyone looking for good ideas on how to make sustainability more real and concrete.”—Moisés Naím, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Chief International Columnist, *El País*; Former Editor-in-Chief, *Foreign Policy*

“An important book that contributes greatly to the understanding and practice of sustainability in a comprehensive, lucid, and thoughtful way.”—Shu Chien, National Medal of Science Laureate; University Professor of Bioengineering and Medicine, University of California, San Diego

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### About Global Social Innovators Forum (GSIF)

The Global Social Innovators Forum (GSIF) is an initiative spearheaded by Social Innovation Park Ltd (SIP). Launched in 2006, the Global Social Innovators Forum is the first and foremost forum on social enterprise and innovation in Asia. GSIF aims to create a community of change makers for sustainable and meaningful impact by bringing together top thinkers, social entrepreneurs and thought leaders from the people, public and private sectors globally. Through GSIF, SIP aims to build a network of thought and action leaders from around the world and support collaborative innovations that build a more inclusive, sustainable and better world

### About Social Innovation Park Ltd (SIP)

Social Innovation Park Ltd (SIP) is an impartial, not-for-profit organisation that incubates social entrepreneurs worldwide to bring positive innovations to lives and societies. SIP’s mission revolves around 3 ‘E’s – to Educate, Empower and Enhance. SIP Educates the people, public and private sectors on the principles of social entrepreneurship and innovation. It Empowers social entrepreneurs and innovators with a shared resource pool and Enhances such set-ups by leveraging on the power of both local and international networks to provide access to resources, cutting edge business ideas and best practices. SIP is based in Singapore but reaches leaders in social entrepreneurship and innovation globally. SIP International Chapters are located in Kashmir, Japan, China, Indonesia, and the United States of America. For more information, please visit [www.socialinnovationpark.org](http://www.socialinnovationpark.org).

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