



### The Future of Buildings Seminar Series - Green Inside Out

**Date:** 11 July 2019, Thursday

**Time:** 2:00PM - 5:30PM (Registration begins at 1:30PM)

**Venue:** Lifelong Learning Institute  
 Event Hall 1-1, Level 1  
 11 Eunos Rd 8, Singapore 408601  
 Nearest MRT Station: Paya Lebar

PROGRAMME	
<b>1:30PM</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>2:00PM</b>	<b>Welcome Address</b> Dr Ho Nyok Yong SGBC President
<b>2:15PM</b>	<b>Nature-Place-People and the Role of Buildings</b> Dr Tan Puay Yok Associate Professor Master of Landscape Architecture Programme Director Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment National University of Singapore
<b>2:45PM</b>	<b>Shaping Green Cities</b> Mr Veerasekaran Founding and Managing Director Greenology Pte Ltd
<b>3:15PM</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>
<b>3:45PM</b>	<b>Biophilia is Wellness</b> Ms Yvonne Tan Director, DP Green Accredited Landscape Architect SILA 2nd Vice President SGBC Landscape Technical Committee Chair
<b>4:15PM</b>	<b>Connecting the Dots and Uncovering Unconscious Waste</b> Mr Ashokan Ramakrishnan Director iWOW Technology Pte Ltd
<b>4:45PM</b>	<b>Aesthetics &amp; Value of Biotic Design</b> Ar. Kuan Chee Yung Senior Vice President & Director, CPG Signature Pte Ltd Director, PM Link Sdn Bhd
<b>5:15PM</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
<b>5:30PM</b>	<b>End</b>

## Dr Tan Puay Yok

Associate Professor  
Master of Landscape Architecture Programme Director  
Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment  
National University of Singapore



### PROFILE

Dr. Tan Puay Yok is an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture in the School of Design and Environment of the National University of Singapore. He is the Programme Director for the Master of Landscape Architecture programme and the leader of the research and teaching group for landscape studies. His research, teaching and professional activities focus on the science, policies, and practices of urban greening and ecology of the built environment. He combines his background in the sciences, experience in urban governance from the public sector, and interactions with practitioners to apply knowledge for urban greening to improve environmental quality and societal well-being. He also serves as the Associate Editor for Landscape and Urban Planning and Journal of Urban Ecology. He is active in international collaborations and grant reviews, and also advises on landscape design and planning projects in the region as means of transferring knowledge from the academia to practice.

### TOPIC SYNOPSIS

#### **Nature-Place-People and the Role of Buildings**

Singapore's current green environment has been achieved through sustained urban greening efforts which started more than five decades ago. This achievement is remarkable and continues to benefit the city in many ways. As we look at the urban development trajectory of Singapore over the next few decades, the increasingly built-up nature of the city concomitant with loss of vegetated areas must lead to concerns on the future environment of the city, and prompt us to look for solutions to mitigate the impacts of urbanization and densification. Buildings must be seen as not a problem, but as a solution to these challenges, and in particular, that buildings have a role to forge a closer link between nature, place and people. In his presentation, Dr Tan talks about buildings as a solution to the challenges of urban development and also challenges the notion that a "green" building is automatically ecological.

## Mr Veera Sekaran

Founding and Managing Director

Greenology Pte Ltd, Vertivegies Pte Ltd, Greenologix Pte Ltd, Evology Pte Ltd



### PROFILE

Mr Veera Sekaran is the founder and Managing Director of Greenology, which was established ten years ago to realise his vision of transforming urban spaces into living, thriving habitats and sustainable ecosystems. This was followed by the birth of other affiliate companies, namely, Greenologix, VertiVeggies and Evology, to provide solutions in climate controlled urban farming, Green Intelligence and Eco-development consultancies.

A Botanist with over 30 years of experience, Mr Veera is an urban greening specialist in vertical greening, interiorscapes, urban greening consultancy, urban farming and green intelligence. He has taken on important roles both locally and overseas in the public and private sectors. These roles include Assistant Curator of Horticulture at the Zoo and Night Safari, the Curator of Horticulture at Changi Airport, as well as an Assistant Director at the National Parks Board. In efforts to educate others, Mr Veera has served as lecturer for four terms in NUS for the Master's Programme in Landscape Architecture, and also taught at the Institute of Engineers (IES) on the Active Beautiful Clean Waters (ABC Waters Programme) spearheaded by the Public Utilities Board.

Taking his knowledge onto the international stage, Mr Veera has undertaken a broad-range of consultancy projects for overseas Eco-parks and Zoos, including territories in Pakistan, Morocco, Seychelles, Africa, Vietnam, China, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia.

### TOPIC SYNOPSIS

#### **Biofilial: the Conscience and Consciousness of Greening Urban Spaces**

A term coined by E O Wilson in 1984, 'Biophilia' describes the urge of humankind to connect with other life forms. Mr Veera prefers his own coinage, 'Biofilial' – implying filial duty or piety. 'Biofilial' is the sense of respect and care that is achieved by integrating various sciences and disciplines into designs that create habitats and sustainable ecosystems for all species to co-exist. With 70 percent of the world's population projected to live in cities by 2050, a holistic approach to greening our cities will be needed. This is where 'biofilial' cities come into the picture as rapid urbanisation places pressure on the environment through the reduction in greenery and loss of biodiversity. In his presentation, Mr Veera will talk about utilising Green Intelligence to overcome these challenges and start the Green Evolution.

## Ms Yvonne Tan

Director, DP Green  
Accredited Landscape Architect  
SILA 2nd Vice President  
SGBC Landscape Technical Committee Chair



### PROFILE

Ms. Yvonne Tan is a Singapore accredited Landscape Architect with a keen interest in place making and creating therapeutic landscapes and species rich habitats. She is the Director of DP Green, a Landscape Architecture and Arboriculture consultancy firm. As a practitioner with over 20 years in designing and managing projects - from award winning landscape planning, place making and urban design, park infrastructure, recreational, waterfront, civic + institution, mixed development and residential - including 4 years based in China and over 6 years in India. A first class honours graduate in Landscape Architecture of Lincoln University(NZ) and a member of Singapore Institute of Planners, Yvonne's focus is working with developers and clients internationally to exponentially value add to the projects.

She is Landscape Technical Committee Chair since 2016 for Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC), serves as 2nd Vice President on Singapore Institute of Landscape Architects (SILA) council, the Active Beautiful Clean Waters (ABC Waters Programme) Working Committee 2019-2020 and has served as External Examiner for the Diploma of Landscape Architecture, Singapore Polytechnic, 2013-2018. Yvonne is active on many awards judging panels and is a speaker at many international and local conferences. . Yvonne is a sought after awards panel judge as well as international and local conference speaker.

### TOPIC SYNOPSIS

#### **Biophilia is Wellness**

Biophilia is more than being Green. Identified by the World Green Building Council as one of seven features that make healthier spaces, the natural world has a part to play in everything from health and well-being to livelihoods and economy. As the world's population continues to urbanise, the emerging thrust towards wellness in the community, everyday living and an increasing aging population prompts many considerations to which answers are not yet mainstream. Biophilia is one of the cornerstones to achieve Wellness; reduce stress, rejuvenate, recover enhance creativity and clarity of thought, and improve overall health. The built environment industry plays a critical role in conceptualisation and delivery of these developing concepts. In her presentation, Yvonne will describe the therapeutic and wellness design considerations shaping DP Green's biophilic design response from the Landscape Architect practitioner's point of view.



## Mr Ashokan Ramakrishnan

Director  
iWOW Technology Pte Ltd

### PROFILE

Mr Ashokan heads the Smart Metering business at iWOW, an IOT technology provider that helps businesses uncover unconscious waste and reduce their water and electricity consumption. He is deeply concerned about climate change and believes that businesses can play a key part in creating a more sustainable future by driving innovation and making better long-run decisions. Ashokan has an MBA from NUS and a degree in Material Science from NTU. He worked in global supply chains for over 20 years, based in Singapore as well as Shanghai before joining iWOW. Passionate about connecting dots and people, he spends much of his spare time serving as President of the Mother Earth Toastmasters, a non-profit that helps eco-ambassadors hone their skills in communicating this important and urgent message of environmental sustainability.

### TOPIC SYNOPSIS

#### **Connecting the Dots and Uncovering Unconscious Waste**

Mr Ashokan will be sharing how we need to be mindful of “unintended” impacts of our well-meaning green design/ innovation initiatives. He will use case studies on unintended waste that may be inadvertently generated by urban greenery systems to illustrate the point. More importantly, he will emphasise on the importance of IoT and connected buildings in helping building owners gather real-life data and allowing them to close the loop in their initial design goals.



## Ar. Kuan Chee Yung

Senior Vice President & Director, CPG Signature Pte Ltd  
Director, PM Link Sdn Bhd

### PROFILE

Kuan Chee Yung is Senior Vice President & Director at CPG Signature Pte Ltd, Lead of CPG Landscape and Director of PM Link Pte Ltd. He won the BCA-SGBC Green Architect of the Year Award 2017, was council member of Singapore Institute of Architects 2012 to 2019 and Co-Chaired the SIA Education Thrust. His Projects like Solaris@OneNorth has received BCIA SIA AWARDS 2015, LEAF Awards 2014 (Outstanding), SIA Architectural Design Awards 2011 (Honourable Mention), PAM Awards 2011 (Gold), Green Good Design Awards 2010, BCA Green Mark Awards 2010 (Platinum), SIA-NParks Skyrise Greenery Awards 2009, RIBA International Design Award 2012, CTBUH 2012.

### TOPIC SYNOPSIS

#### **Biotic Developments, A Uniquely Singapore Approach to Integrated Greenery and Biophilic Design**

The Founding Fathers of Singapore instinctively understood the benefits of incorporating greenery into buildings as well as the associated benefits that come with biophilia. CPG's designers, having contributed greatly to the greening of Singapore via iconic sustainable design & integrated greenery projects like Changi Airport, Gardens By The Bay, Solaris, SADM NTU, Khoo Teck Phuat Hospital etc, have continued to be thought leaders locally and overseas, evolving this urban green feature into new Biotic Developments globally. Biotic Developments regenerate many aspects of nature with every 'living structure' we design, join our journey in creating Nature!