

THE BUSINESS OF BETTER

Collection of SDG Driven Member Success Stories

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FOREWORD



Dr. Bicky Bhangu

President, UN Global Compact
Network Singapore

When the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, it set out a bold vision to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and prosperity for all by 2030. We are now past the pivotal halfway mark to 2030 and while there are signs of progress, unfortunately only 17% SDG targets are currently on track. This highlights the urgent need to accelerate our efforts in the next five years. Meaningful progress towards the SDGs will help build resilient communities that thrive economically, socially and environmentally - ensuring that no one is left behind.

To achieve the necessary progress towards our 2030 targets, we need an inclusive, whole-of-society approach. Multi-stakeholder partnerships are essential with improved access to finance. In this effort, businesses play a significant role and they must do their part. Around the world, we have witnessed a multitude of businesses rising to the challenge. Companies are aligning their strategies with the SDGs, measuring and reporting their progress and ensuring that sustainability forms part of their business models.

In Singapore, we are witnessing inspiring examples of sustainability leadership driven by innovation, collaboration and commitment to creating lasting impact. These efforts span businesses of all sizes, reflecting the deep, widespread commitment to sustainability across Singapore's economy. Many of these businesses are members of the **United Nations Global Compact Network Singapore (UNG CNS)**, a vital part of the global **United Nations Global Compact** community. As UNG CNS members, they are guided by the **Ten Principles** and are aligning their business strategies with the SDGs, ensuring their efforts not only benefit their organisations but also contribute to the larger global movement for a sustainable future.

This book celebrates the remarkable stories of Singaporean businesses that are not only tackling short-term challenges head-on but are also finding sustainable solutions that generate long-term value.



These participating companies are committed to advancing the SDGs in thoughtful and innovative ways, demonstrating the profound opportunities that sustainability can help create value, build resilience and drive innovation. From reducing carbon footprints and encouraging inclusivity, to developing solutions that benefit communities and ecosystems, these businesses show us that driving meaningful change is not just a possibility-it is happening today.

Singapore's dynamic economy and supportive policy environment, which encourages sustainable action both locally and across the ASEAN region, play a vital role in these efforts. Policies like carbon taxation and mandatory sustainability reporting are essential steps in driving sustainable practices. The Singapore Green Plan 2030 provides a clear and ambitious roadmap for sustainable development that aligns with global goals.

We are seeing increasing collaboration to drive sustain sustainability at scale, particularly in areas like energy transition and supply chain management.

The businesses featured in this book are proof of this belief. Their experiences show that the key to making an impact is simply to start. Start small, but start with intention. Focus efforts where they matter most. Perfect solutions may not always exist, but progress is always possible when there is a genuine desire to act.

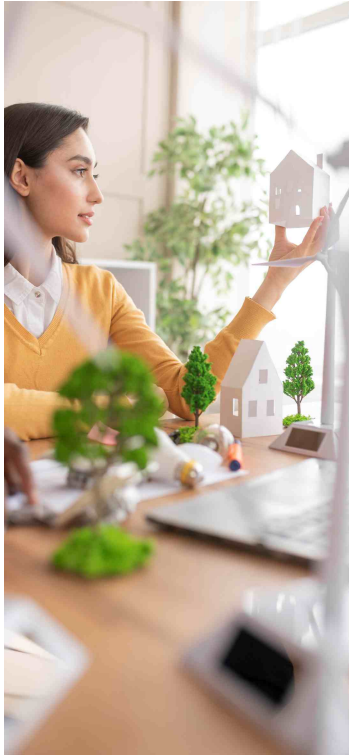
I would like to thank all the UNGCNS member companies featured in this book. Your courage, commitment and leadership help guide others towards a better future. For those reading these stories, I hope they inspire you to take your first step, or your next step for your own sustainability journey.

We all have a role to play in accelerating progress towards the SDGs. By acting with purpose and collaborating across sectors, businesses can thrive while helping communities and protecting our planet. I hope these stories inspire you as much as they have inspired me.

Dr. Bicky Bhangu

President, UN Global Compact Network Singapore

INTRODUCTION



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Member Success Stories

Sustainability is no longer a distant goal; it is an urgent and fundamental necessity. As we face unprecedented environmental, social and economic challenges, it is clear that our collective future depends on the actions we take today.

In Asia Pacific, home to more than 4.3 billion people, the impacts of climate change are particularly severe. Over recent years, rising air and ocean temperatures have triggered numerous extreme weather events across the region. Exceptionally wet monsoon seasons and prolonged droughts have impacted livelihoods, exacerbated food insecurity and amplified health-related issues.

Today, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have never been more important. They provide a blueprint to address the world's most pressing issues, while promoting long-term, sustainable growth across industries and societies. For Singapore, sustainable development has been integral since its inception, and this commitment persists today through initiatives like Singapore's Green Plan 2030. By drawing lessons from the successes of other nations and adopting best practices, Singapore continues to advance its SDGs. Policies such as the '30 by 30' plan to boost food security, efforts to strengthen energy resilience through innovation and diversification, and the expansion of training and skills development programmes for emerging roles in the green economy, are key steps towards achieving the SDGs.

Despite significant advancements, global efforts are falling short of achieving the SDG targets by 2030. To address this, the United Nations Global Compact's Forward Faster initiative, aims to drive immediate and decisive progress. By helping companies to identify areas where they can achieve the most meaningful and immediate impact, and offering the necessary tools, resources, and networks to make change, Forward Faster can accelerate sustainable development.



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The road to sustainability, for many businesses, is not without its hurdles, however. Resource constraints and limited capital to invest in sustainability efforts often hinder progress. Some organisations find themselves lost in the complexity of integrating sustainable practices into existing business models.

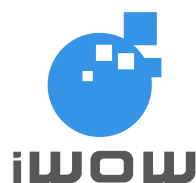
In this first volume, we have chosen to focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which account for 99% of all enterprises in Singapore and employ 71% of the nation's total workforce. They also account for a significant proportion of the carbon footprint in the supply chain of large corporations. With their agility, creativity, and strong values, SMEs play an essential role in shaping a green economy, and transforming industries for the better. Through continued collaboration, education and support, we can empower these businesses to not only achieve their goals but also thrive in an ever-evolving landscape.

The UN Global Compact Network Singapore is steadfast in our mission to support businesses in taking actions that advance societal goals. We aim to assist and simplify the path forward for companies of all sizes - no matter where they are on their sustainability journey - by providing tailored tools, comprehensive training, and strategic guidance, to make sustainability more accessible.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the many government agencies, Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) and knowledge partners that have collaborated with us on events, training programmes, thought leadership initiatives and in the development of resources designed to support businesses. Special thanks also goes to the visionary businesses that have contributed to this book. Your passion, dedication and invaluable insights inspire others to take meaningful steps towards a greener future.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read this book and being part of this shared journey. We hope that the stories and strategies within these pages encourage and guide you towards a more sustainable tomorrow.

BUILDING SMART CITIES & SUSTAINABLE FUTURES WITH iWOW





The sustainability wave was something that we could not ignore, neither as individuals nor as a business" expressed iWOW's CEO, Raymond Bo in 2018, adding, "...environmental and social issues were interconnected and so we needed to take a wider lens when accessing our impact." - *Raymond Bo*



From Vision to action : The iWOW sustainability journey

Meet the folks of iWOW who created the **TraceTogether** token that helped to contain the spread of COVID-19 in Singapore.

iWOW is a pioneering end-to-end tech solutions provider that specialises in Internet of Things (IoT) applications and wireless communication infrastructure. Fueled by their mission to 'Inspire the World of Wireless,' iWOW exemplifies how businesses can cultivate new opportunities for both themselves and society by reimagining urban solutions with a focus on sustainability.

iWOW's sustainability journey formally began in 2018 when its Chief Marketing Officer, Ashokan Ramakrishnan, attended the Sustainability Professional Programme offered by UNGCNS. Through this programme, Ashokan gained a deeper awareness of potential risks and opportunities in sustainability, strengthening his commitment to align iWOW with sustainable practices and expand their smart metering business offerings.



Progress was slow initially, as many customers struggled to justify the return on investment and relied heavily on grants. But momentum has grown significantly over the past three years, driven in part by the launch of the Singapore Green Plan in 2021 and the accelerated digitalisation agenda prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic.



We were mindful that sustainability was more than just the environment. We understood that our IoT solutions had significant social impact too. Our existing EMS business was testimony to that. And so we looked out for opportunities where IoT could help mitigate some of the more wicked social problems in our society. - *Ashokan Ramakrishnan*



Ashokan Ramakrishnan
Chief Marketing Officer, iWOW

There is a tendency to view people, planet and profit as trade-offs, but iWOW believes otherwise.

Collaborations with CapitaLand, and Singapore Management University (SMU) established iWOW as a trusted and efficient solution provider, as clients witnessed how their solutions significantly reduced costs by uncovering undetected losses in waste and electricity consumption. This recognition paved the way for their partnership with GovTech, leading to the co-creation of the Trace Together token and the Alarm Alert Solution.

iWOW was listed on the Catalist Board of the Singapore Exchange (SGX) in 2022. As an early adopter of the UNGCNS' RICE tool, iWOW began assessing, measuring and tracking their sustainability efforts in 2018. The company now works with a sustainability consultant to navigate sustainability reporting frameworks, align the management team on sustainability commitments, plan the next phase of their sustainability journey and calculate their carbon emissions.



The data and the lack of data has provided insights into where the gaps are and take action towards plugging them.
- *Ashokan Ramakrishnan*

Sustainable strategy creates sustainable value



Like most SMEs, iWOW faced resource restrictions and was often confronted with the conflict of short-term survival over long-term sustainability.

Good cents and sensibilities

iWOW acknowledges that sustainability is crucial to unlocking new revenue streams and optimising costs. Consequently, the company has prioritised sustainability measures that provide cost benefits. For instance, iWOW invested in the development of IoT modems that can be

refurbished through "over-the-air" updates, eliminating the need to physically disassemble the devices. This approach not only reduces material waste, but also saves time. In this way, iWOW's commitment to sustainability aligns seamlessly with its objective of cost optimisation.

We believe that for an organisation to change, the individuals within will need to shift first our mindsets. We prioritise quality training as one of the most important levers that we have to help our staff acquire new knowledge and learn new ways to imbue sustainability into our business.

- Ashokan Ramakrishnan



Walking the talk

iWOW has benefited from various government grants that have helped defray their training cost, such as the "Foundations in Corporate Sustainability" (FCS) offered by UNGCNS which is eligible for Enterprise Singapore subsidies. By fostering a team of like-minded individuals, iWOW is able to magnify the impact of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts.

Attending FCS not only helped me to understand the bigger picture of how People and Planet are inter-connected but it also gave me concrete ways to help my company on its sustainability journey.

- *Chan Kok Loon*
Senior Sales Manager

Value Chain

As a small player within large global supply chains, iWOW quickly acknowledged its limited influence over major suppliers. To overcome this, the company focuses on selecting and forming strategic collaborations with suppliers that enable them to maximise their impact. For example, by taking a holistic approach in their designs to include "ease of refurbishment", iWOW has worked with the factory that produces ankle tags for young offenders and prisoners on parole.

This factory also managed iWOW's refurbishment operations, ensuring that waste, such as batteries are disposed of responsibly.

iWOW's efforts in sustainability has delivered



Sense of purpose

Witnessing the transformative impact that CSR activities have had on ex-offender families and low-income seniors has given iWOW employees a shared goal and appreciation for sustainability efforts.



New revenue channels

iWOW's smart metering solutions are currently deployed in green building projects such as the Raffles City, Singapore Management University and various commercial buildings across Singapore. As societies pivot towards sustainable living, demand for such projects are expected to rise in both scale and volume.



Optimised savings

Beyond life-cycle control, the IoT-as-a-service model has also made recovery, refurbishment, & continuous design enhancements that are much more cost-effective to implement.



Recognition

"UN Global Compact Network Singapore was one of the first organisations to recognise our potential with the Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Award in 2018 and played a pivotal role in reinforcing our commitment to sustainability."

- Raymond Bo, CEO, iWOW



Working towards the SDGs with IoT applications and wireless communications

iWOW efforts in wireless tech contribute towards the building of a smarter, greener, and safer Singapore and towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



SDG Goal #1: No Poverty

iWOW's electronic monitoring solutions support ex-offenders in their societal reintegration journey. By promoting accountability and strengthening family bonds, this solution contribute to breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty.



SDG Goal #3: Good Health & Well-Being

iWOW's smart alert solution guards over 10,000 seniors in rental flats, helping elderly individuals who live alone age gracefully in safe environments.



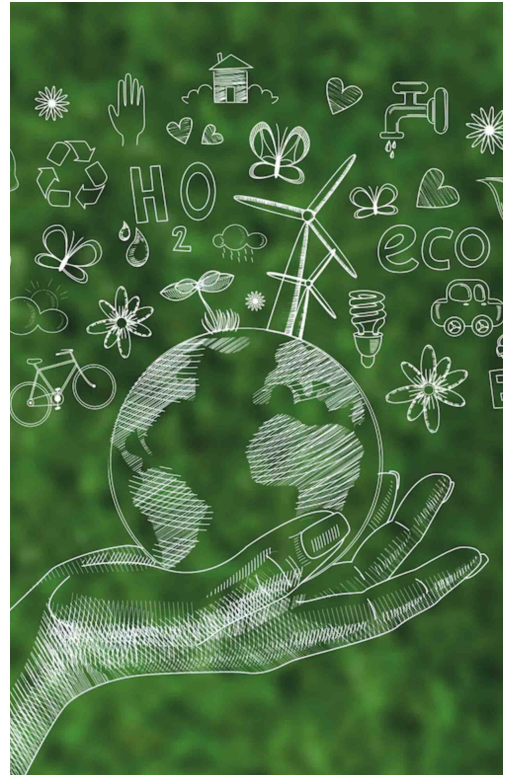
SDG Goal #12: Responsible Consumption & Production

iWOW adopted an IoT-as-a-service model to enhance product longevity, promote end-of-life responsibility, and reinforce disposal duties, creating a sustainable product lifecycle model for other enterprises to follow.



SDG Goal #11: Sustainable Cities & SDG Goal #13: Climate Action

By automating the measurement of electricity and water consumption, iWOW's smart metering helps empower businesses and property owners to curtail expenses & minimise waste while also streamlining the process of sustainability reporting.



Know more:



<https://www.iwow.com.sg/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/iwow-technology/>

COLOURING SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH A NEW ERA OF DYEING PRACTICES





Embedding sustainability into organisations from the start ensures a strong foundation for longterm impact. We spoke to Dro Tan, Executive Director of Matex International Limited, where environmental concerns were prioritised long before sustainability gained mainstream attention. He discussed how innovation serves as a vehicle for sustainable action and enhances their commitment to environmental responsibility.



Dro Tan
Executive Director, Matex

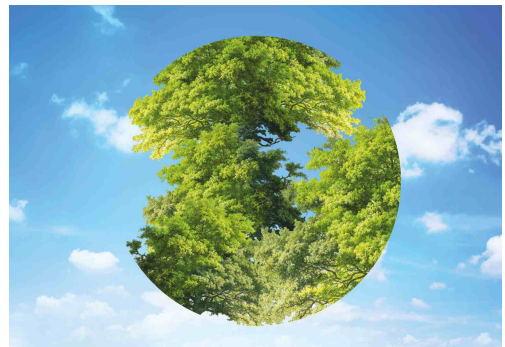
Embedding sustainability for environmental and business resilience

The textile dyeing process has long contributed to significant pollution of land, air and water, releasing harmful pollutants that threaten ecosystems and human health. With the fashion industry ranking as the second-largest polluter after oil, the need for change has never been more urgent.

Driven by a vision for a sustainable future, Matex is committed to transforming this narrative. The company was founded in 1989 by Dr. Alex Tan, whose experience in the pharmaceuticals industry brought to light the risks that environmental issues pose to businesses around the world.

Reflecting on this knowledge, as well as learnings from environmental disasters such as the Sandoz chemical spill, led Dr. Tan to embrace sustainable action as a core mission for Matex.

Inspired by his father's values, as well as his tertiary education in architecture, this commitment had been continued by his son, Dro Tan. Building on these influences, as well as the company's desire to "do the right thing", Matex has a strong commitment to reduce the ecological impact of dyeing processes, while elevating the Asian chemicals market along the value chain.



Adhering to goals 3, 6, 11, and 12, of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which address health, water management, sustainable cities, and responsible consumption, has reaffirmed this commitment.



Sustainability is part of our ongoing business process and it's very much in us to live the culture of COLOUR (Circular, Operational readiness, Low-cost, Openly innovative, Ur satisfaction, Reliable) as laid out in our organisation's motto.

-Dro Tan

Innovation as a vehicle for sustainable progress

For Matex, innovation has been integral to developing sustainable solutions that meet the needs of its clients. Over the last three decades, Matex has allocated up to 10% of revenue to research development in clean colour science technologies. Its current commitments include the development of raw materials and production processes which generate less waste - supporting Matex' target to reduce volumes of wastage by 45% by 2030. We plan to be net zero by 2049 and improving the technologies in waste treatment facilities.

As a Bluesign® system partner, Matex is committed to the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC). As such Matex's innovations are designed to reduce the use of dye, chemicals, salt, water, and energy.

A testament to Matex's focus on sustainable innovation is the successful launch of its Megapro ECO® solution, which advances textile dyeing technology by eliminating the need for salt - a common environmental pollutant in the industry. By eliminating salt from the dyeing process, Megapro ECO® allows 75% of the water used in the process to be recycled, effectively closing the loop on water usage in textile dyeing.

Matex's Mebyo® technology is another pioneering innovation, which combines the use of probiotics and prebiotics into a bio-based green cleaning product - a safe, and sustainable alternative to conventional cleaning products & harmful disinfectants.

Through these innovative solutions, Matex has worked hard to shift ingrained mindsets and habits tied to traditional practices, inspiring a transition toward more sustainable alternatives.

Matex is humbled to have received a number of awards for its efforts. These have inspired employees and reinforced the company's commitment to its 2030 goals and 2050 net zero ambitions. The awards have also provided Matex with an opportunity to share their story and mission with wider stakeholders.

The company emerged as a winner of the prestigious 2024 Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards in the LowCarbonSG Category.



Additionally, they were proud to have been honoured at the Company of Good Awards (3 Hearts recognition) in 2024 - an event organised by Singapore's National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC). The award recognises companies in Singapore that have embraced the National Corporate Purpose Framework and are making significant contributions in the five impact areas of Society, People, Governance, Environment and the Economy key areas of focus for Matex.



“No matter how big or small, there is always some way to be part of the impact. As long as we are willing to take the first step, be humble, unlearn what we have learnt and embrace what we feel - it is the decade of action after all.” - Dro Tan

The journey to sustainability is an iterative process



The path to sustainability is a continuous process that values progress over perfection. For Matex, this means reviewing its internal sustainability scoring rubric every year, and conducting a thorough reassessment of its overall company direction, including sustainability goals, every three years.

This iterative process has also been fundamental to Matex's approach to innovation. The pursuit of a less polluting dye and dyeing process has always been a passionate endeavour.

In 2023, Matex's Mebyo® solution won the “Sustainable Solutions” category at the Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards, winning the same award in 2019 for its Megapro® solutions. Matex also proudly received the “Sustainability Leaders Recognition” award at the Singapore Furniture Industry Awards (SFIA) 42nd Gala Dinner & Sol Awards Ceremony in 2023.



It felt like a holy grail for us," shared Dro. "The technology of 30 years ago was inadequate; the dyes lacked efficiency, and the machines were not sophisticated enough. Yet, we never lost hope in our quest for progress."

Over the past three decades, Matex has developed ten generations of its Megapro® dyes, with each iteration - from the first to the ninth - focused on enhancing efficiency and strength while reducing environmental footprints. As well as saving one trillion litres of water per year Matex's Megapro® ECO reduces the usage of chemical dyes by 500 million kilograms per year, lowers the usage of salt by eight billion kilograms per year while saving 200 billion kilograms in carbon dioxide emissions.

While the path to sustainable innovation can be challenging, remaining agile and adopting a long-term perspective to sustainability is essential for success.



Supporting local communities through collaboration

After decades of international expansion, the Singapore Green Plan 2030 and the COVID-19 pandemic provided Matex with the opportunity to refocus on its domestic market.

Matex is actively engaged in community projects, and recently collaborated with the Temasek Foundation & ST Engineering for the distribution of masks during the pandemic. By providing reusable masks equipped with HeiQ Viroblock Antiviral Textile Technology, Matex contributed to public health and safety, supporting communities at a challenging time.



Driving meaningful progress requires collaboration, as attempting to do it alone limits the potential for innovation and impact. Working together leverages collective strengths and resources to achieve positive change.



We sincerely hope that our story goes on to inspire fellow business peers to know that we are together in this as one home team. We encourage businesses to be braver and step out from their own shadows, to communicate earnestly and eagerly about their joint successes and co-build a community kampong innovative spirit that will co-benefit and inspire generations to come."

Embracing a whole-of-organisation approach to sustainability

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it requires the participation of every employee for Matex to embed sustainability into its core values. Providing value to customers and the community is a shared goal that unites the staff and Matex.





When the workforce shares the same belief as the company, it is to their interests to improve their capabilities and deliver the KPIs (key performance indicators)” explained Dro. “The workforce would work towards improvements for the company and at the same time, work to improve their own skills. This will ensure that the business sustains.”

Recognising the importance of a unified vision, Dro values the support from Matex's Board of Directors for their sustainability initiatives from the very beginning. He is confident that their varied expertise will enable the company to tackle sustainability and business challenges as they emerge.

Looking ahead, Dro intends to work closely with the Board and other partners to further advance sustainability efforts. He is committed to transparently sharing the company's journey and achievements with stakeholders through annual reports, ensuring everyone is inspired and engaged in the vision of a more sustainable tomorrow.

Reporting on Matex's sustainability efforts

Matex's journey toward sustainability reporting began in 2011, initially reporting through the United Nations Global Compact Communication on Progress (CoP). This step laid the foundation for their ongoing reporting and the company produced its first sustainability report (integrated into its annual report) in 2017. For Matex, quantifying sustainability

targets and actions gives them the chance to not only articulate their actions but also to find gaps within their processes and opportunities to improve.





You can not properly address what you do not track or measure, and coming together as a team to discuss the impacts and set sustainability goals is a fun and humbling lesson for all involved. - *Dro Tan*

Matex has been an avid supporter of the UNGCNS, since its early days as Singapore Compact. “We joined as a pioneer in the LowCarbonSG programme and have benefited from the use of RICE and other proprietary tools that the UNGCNS has developed, tested and refined.” Sustainability events organised by UNGCNS also help to remind Dro of the bigger picture, and place Matex’s sustainability efforts into context.

What's next for Matex?

The textile industry will continue to face declining margins, product commoditisation, rapidly expanding competition in developing countries, and customers demanding lower prices.

When asked about the biggest challenge for Matex, Dro gave a thoughtful answer, “To come up with the next commercially feasible solution. A sustainable business must solve a problem and to solve it with a solution that is commercially feasible.” Instead of focusing on the difficult environments and unfavourable trends, the innovator in Matex focuses on creating value.



Know more:



<https://matex.com.sg/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/matex-international-limited/>

CHAMPIONING HOLISTIC HOSPITALITY AT SILOSO BEACH RESORT

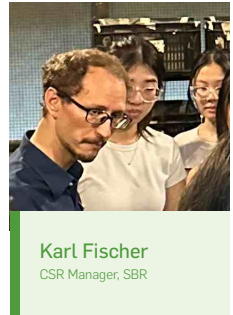


SILOSO BEACH RESORT
Sentosa





For Siloso Beach Resort, our efforts towards sustainability have always been about being relevant for a future generation. We hope that by being an early adopter of sustainable practices, our business will be ready for a future where environmental concerns are much more important". - *Karl Fischer*



Cultivating a culture of sustainability from the start

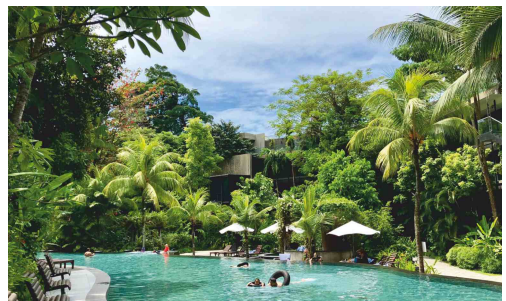
The hospitality industry is among the largest and most varied sectors globally. While the sector provides travellers with a wide range of services and experiences, it is also one of the most resource intensive and environmentally harmful sectors. It faces challenges related to waste, carbon emissions, biodiversity, and social responsibility.

In a sector that has been slow to adopt sustainable practices, Siloso Beach Resort (SBR) stands out as a pioneering ecological resort. SBR management were quick to recognise the urgent environmental challenges of our changing world & were dedicated to incorporating sustainability into all aspects of the resort - from design and construction to the way the resort services clients and local communities.

Right from the design and construction stages, sustainable features were integrated into the hotel plans. Given the hotel's difficult location on a hillside in a forested part of Sentosa, forward-thinking

design and construction techniques were used to integrate over 200 existing mature trees into the hotel's structure - a key aspect of the project - while leaving room for planting a further 450. Features including water conservation measures, utilising an underground natural spring reservoir, energy-efficient systems, and a rooftop garden that produces organic vegetables for the hotel's food & beverage operations were also incorporated in to the hotel design.

With sustainability not widely accepted as a business concept at that time, management faced an uphill struggle in communicating their vision to partners in the construction industry.



Since its inception over a decade ago, the resort has consistently led the way in promoting environmental best practice in the industry and this has not gone

unnoticed. The resort was honoured as a "Most Admired ASEAN Enterprise" under the Corporate Social Responsibility award category for SMEs at the ASEAN Business Awards 2012, and it proudly received Singapore's President's Award for the Environment in 2013.

These awards reflect SBR's dedication to not just hospitality, but to nurturing the planet and inspiring others in the industry to follow suit.



Embracing a systems thinking approach enables organisations to understand the interconnections within their operations and their impact on the environment and society. We spoke to Karl Fischer, CSR Manager at Siloso Beach Resort (SBR) Singapore, about the advantages of adopting a holistic and integrated approach to sustainability. This strategy has not only built a resilient business but also strengthened community ties.





We do not need to waste time and resources to reinvent our concept to be more sustainable, because it has been a priority from the start. -Karl Fischer

Leading through active stakeholder engagement

SBR strongly believes that businesses play a crucial role in positively influencing their numerous stakeholders, including the local communities in which they operate. Through active environmental and social stewardship, SBR believes that the benefits of their sustainability initiatives can extend to broader society.



Thanks to initiatives like the Singapore Green Plan 2030, SBR has observed growing consumer awareness around environmental issues and sustainable practices in recent years. SBR has been able to capitalise on this momentum through its many CSR programmes. Its Eco Tours programme, for example, has attracted more than 22,000 participants since 2007 across diverse groups

including universities, government bodies and hotel guests. Additionally, through its support of biodiversity education, SBR hopes to raise awareness of the intensifying trend of species extinction, ensuring that the actions taken today resonate for generations to come.

SBR also emphasises strong internal stakeholder engagement. Sustainable management practices are integrated into corporate culture, policies, and staff training. This approach not only ensures that a shared commitment to sustainability exists among employees but also ensures that environmentally responsible practices are woven into every aspect of the organisation's operations.





As a SME, we are limited in resources and risk over-extending ourselves if we do not prioritise our efforts. Knowing our material priorities helps us to better invest our time and financial resources, so that our sustainability programmes are more impactful and add long-term value to our business."

-Karl Fischer

Sharpening focus via materiality assessment

Given the multitude of environmental and social issues at play, SMEs often struggle to determine where to begin in making a meaningful impact. A systematic approach, such as conducting a materiality assessment, can help organisations identify the most pressing concerns and align their efforts with stakeholder expectations.

For SBR, materiality assessment was an essential first step to identifying and prioritising its sustainability issues. This focused approach has enhanced resource allocation and enabled SBR to engage with stakeholders with greater confidence and transparency.

The materiality assessment identified six key areas of focus:

- 1) Preserving biodiversity.
- 2) Carbon footprint reduction.
- 3) Water conservation.
- 4) Managing food waste.
- 5) Promoting environmental education.
- 6) Supporting persons with disabilities (PWDs).

In addition to completing the materiality assessment, SBR has successfully navigated the challenges associated with gathering sustainability data and following reporting guidelines. Since 2012, SBR has been committed to reporting on sustainability, enhancing transparency and accountability in their sustainability efforts.



SBR's commitment to sustainability has been recognised through numerous prestigious awards and certifications, highlighting their exemplary efforts in creating a positive impact.

These accolades not only reflect their dedication to environmental and social stewardship but also inspire other organisations to follow suit.



Enabling Employer Awards 2019

(Leader Award): recognising SBR's commitment to hiring and retaining employees with disabilities.



Asia Responsible Entrepreneurship

Award 2017: This award acknowledges responsible business practices across Asia.



Watermark Honorary Award 2015: for raising awareness and protecting Singapore's precious water resources.



Singapore's **National Parks Landscape Excellence Assessment Framework (LEAF)** Certification was achieved in 2016 and 2013

Building Resilience Through Long-Term Sustainability Strategies

Limited resources, both financial and personnel, often constrain SMEs, making it difficult to distribute efforts across multiple initiatives.

Focusing on sustainability initiatives that can be sustained and grown over the long-term has helped SBR to overcome such constraints. It has also helped to ensure that invested projects yield lasting benefits and facilitate continual learning through trial and error, allowing them to adapt and improve over time.

Looking for areas of overlap between sustainability priorities generates synergies that can enhance overall efficiency. For example, SBR's earthworm composting project is an innovative closed-loop system that recycles food waste. This process not only reduces carbon and water footprints but also produces fertiliser that is used to grow vegetables on-site.

However, the path to success is not always a smooth one. Achieving optimal conditions for the earthworms was challenging due to the lack of precedents in Singapore. To address this, SBR conducted extensive research and testing to refine the system. This project now represents a highlight of SBR's Eco Tour and provides employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the company's landscape team.

Our advice to other business peers, especially SMEs, is to focus on sustainability initiatives that can be maintained and grown over a long period of time...Many sustainability initiatives have multiple factors to consider and there may be hidden negative impacts or opportunity costs that are only revealed over a longer time frame.



As a SME, it is sometimes hard to know if we are adopting the right approach to sustainability since we do not have the resources to comprehensively research and consult experts for every effort." - *Karl Fischer*

Embracing collaborative learning through partnerships and knowledge sharing



Sharing knowledge is incredibly important for SMEs. By tapping into the expertise and experiences of others, businesses can tackle common challenges more effectively.


For SBR, enhancing its sustainability initiatives through partnerships, with UNGCNS for example, has provided a deeper understanding of the relevance of their sustainability efforts. It has also provided the opportunity to engage with other organisations that share similar goals, providing SBR with fresh perspectives that shape its strategies and initiatives.

Through this commitment to collaboration, SBR proves that even limited resources can yield significant benefits when guided by a clear understanding of the larger relevance of sustainability.



Know more:

<https://www.silosobeachresort.com/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/siloso-beach-resort/>

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS, ONE GIFT AT A TIME

DTC
Premiums & POS Merchandise





Care for people and the planet does not have to come at the expense of profit. We took a deep dive into corporate gift company DTC World Corporation and spoke to Cheng Yee Chin, co-founder and general director to see how good sustainability actions lead to good business.



Cheng Yee Chin
Co-founder & General Director,
DTC

A progressive journey

The journey towards sustainability is not easy, especially for companies taking their first steps. But for DTC World - a company committed to becoming Asia's leading premium Point of Sale (POS) merchandise solution and fulfillment partner, not taking this step puts the company at risk of losing customers.

DTC World's sustainability journey began in 2016 when their Singapore-based customer Heineken - Asia Pacific Breweries (APB) requested they undertake an EcoVadis business sustainability assessment. After a rigorous evaluation process, DTC World earned a Gold medal credential by EcoVadis. Subsequently, they were appointed as the APAC Global Fulfillment partner for Tiger, a brand under APB. The appointment unlocked access to global markets, driving an 84% surge in export business and a 46% increase in revenue in 2019. Today, DTC World is still the preferred APAC vendor partner to organisations like Edelweiss, ComScope, and Midea.

A sustainable approach to sustainability

Under the leadership of Yee Chin, the sustainability journey began with an intensive two month effort to develop a corporate sustainability framework, along with defining policies, action plans, and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

In 2018, DTC World joined the UNGCNS, the Singapore chapter of the United Nations Global Compact to strengthen their connections with global players.

The company also engaged with the Mekong Club to deepen its understanding of Anti Slavery initiatives and collaborated with the Tripartite Alliance for Fair and Progressive Employment Practices (TAFEP) to broaden its expertise in fair employment practices in Singapore. DTC World also conducted a Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit (SMETA) for its Singapore office, further advancing its sustainability journey.

Whereas many SMEs cite lack of resources as one of the key challenges in embarking on sustainability, DTC World believes it's very much to do with how current resources are allocated, & the commitment of the team to drive sustainability; Yee Chin sums it up as three components: Manpower Time and Budget.



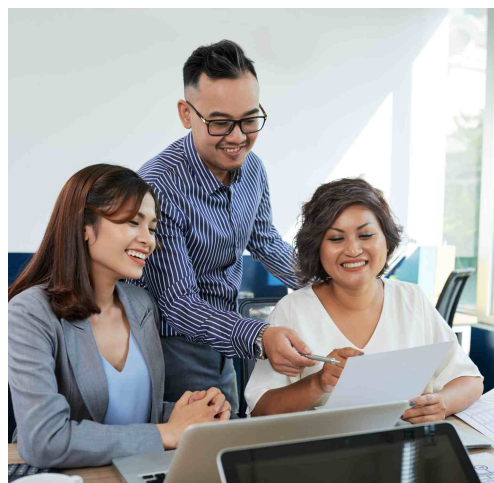
Communication and co-operation

If I have to attend sustainability training and collect data, who will do my job?

Implementing such large-scale changes required strong employee collaboration. In 2016, one of the leaderships' key challenges was persuading employees that it was imperative for the company - and everyone within it - to step up their sustainability efforts. This included participating in training sessions and gathering data, both crucial elements for driving the firm's sustainability initiatives.

And so began the process of learning, development and data collection to support tracking and reporting. By 2022, DTC World had surpassed their targeted

average 16 training hours per person by nearly 3 hours.



To survive, win and keep international clients, embarking on the journey of sustainability is not a 'nice to have' but 'must have'. - Cheng Yee Chin.

Communicating their progress

In 2018, DTC World initiated their sustainability reporting journey with the first submission of their Communication on Progress (CoP) to the UN Global Compact with the CEO's commitment to implement the Ten Principles encompassing human rights, labour, environment, and anticorruption.

Since then, the company has progressed to reporting 'with reference to' the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and expects to gradually start reporting 'in accordance with' the GRI standards. In February 2024, they earned their second EcoVadis Platinum Medal for their continuous proactive approach towards Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives, ranking in the top 1% of companies for proactive measures in sustainability. Furthermore, the company was a winner at UNGCNS' Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards in 2021.



With the guidance of a consultant, and utilising resources accessible to UNGCNS members such as the Responsible Index Communicator for Enterprises tool (RICE), DTC World took its first steps into corporate sustainability reporting. RICE includes a built-in performance scoring system to track progress and recommend areas for improvement, enabling DTC World to publish its inaugural sustainability report in 2019.



Guiding customers and suppliers toward sustainability

To meet increasing customers' requirements for supply chain sustainability & disclosures, DTC World developed their supplier code of conduct to address material concerns & to offer greater sustainability assurances down the value chain.

To minimise disruptions to business operations and production in their supply chain, and to allow their partners time to adapt and implement required measures, DTC World adopted a phased implementation approach, starting with conducting trial assessments in specific product categories.

Actions taken to address non-conformance are proportional to the level of violation. For mild non-compliances, they hold conversations with their suppliers to gain

insights into the root causes. Suppliers undergo a probationary period, and provide proof of implementing corrective measures.



DTC World requires direct suppliers to provide proof of certifications confirming materials are sourced sustainably. Additionally, suppliers must demonstrate fair employment practices, including timely salary payments, maintaining safe and clean working environments, and adhering to policies against workplace discrimination, child labour, and forced labour.

Child labour is easy to spot when our people visit the supplier and see someone below 15 at work, and an example of an unsafe workplace is one where chemicals that are harmful to people are not isolated. - *Cheng Yee Chin.*



To reduce carbon footprint and minimise production disruptions, DTC World's sales team is encouraged to discuss client needs three to six months before scheduled marketing campaigns. This strategy allows for sea freight delivery of merchandise instead of air freight, aligning with sustainable practices down the value chain.

Measuring themselves with the same yardstick

DTC World demonstrates its commitment to sustainability by minimising its

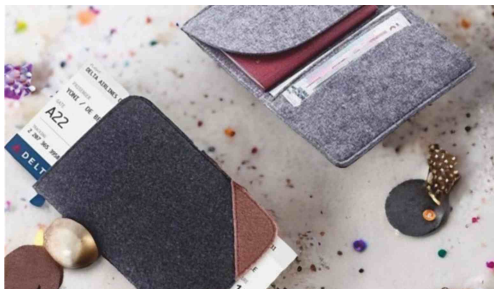
environmental impact through efforts focused on pollution reduction and resource efficiency, including reducing water, fuel and electricity consumption. The company also aims to increase sustainable choices among its product portfolio to 80% by 2025. However, in 2020, they fell short of their targeted 5% increase, achieving only 2.7%. This shortfall was attributed to several challenges, including the higher cost of ecofriendly products, price sensitivity amongst some customers, a limited pool of suppliers with the necessary technologies to produce eco-friendly products (leading to delays in bringing products from concept to market) and some products failing to meet DTC World's stringent due diligence tests.



For example, we have promoted products on our website only to withdraw them a month later because we found out that some of the new materials used to create them - that had come with reports of eco-friendliness - was later proven to be not as green as initially claimed." - *Cheng Yee Chin*.



From concept and design to customer facing, DTC World aims to bring circularity to their eco-friendly products. Materials are chosen for recyclability, products undergo sustainability compliance assessments before distribution, and the packaging used is made from recycled materials.

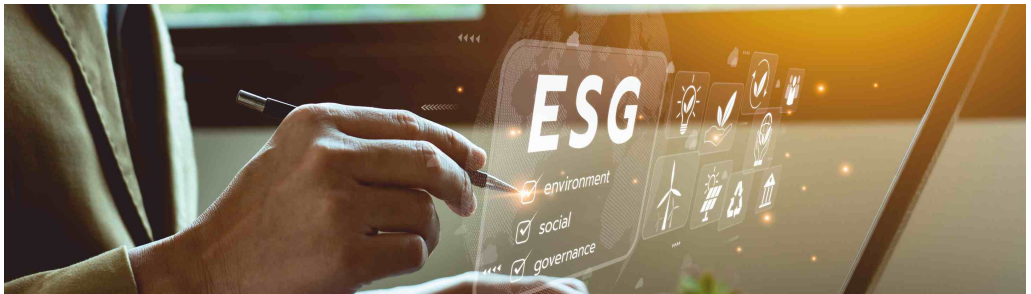


In demonstrating their commitment to meeting their environmental goals, as of 2022, 67% of their product categories offer sustainable choices. This commitment to sustainability has helped the company attract environmentally conscious clients and differentiate themselves from titors in the market. By continuously expanding their sustainable product offerings, they are able to cater to a growing segment of consumers who prioritise eco- friendly options.





Good governance, social practices, industry reputation, risk track record, financial performance, security practices, and certifications are all important parts of sustainability. These are the things that ESG-focused customers and investors will be evaluating. It's what determines whether we get to be retained in inner business circles." - *Cheng Yee Chin*.



Sustainability is more than just green

And as part of managing sustainability risks, open communication is encouraged for all stakeholders, from employees, suppliers, & customers to voice concerns or complaints on various matters, ranging from accounting practices, disclosure procedures, conflicts of interest, and beyond. This inclusive approach extends to addressing significant violations of company policies, unsafe work practices, and any other issues related to fraud, corruption, or employee misconduct.

The journey for DTC World has been marked by resilience, clarity of strategy, and determination. Transitioning from a sole proprietorship to a global entity with 105 staff members across various countries, it has navigated the challenges



of competition and global economic shifts. By committing to sustainability, DTC World has not only overcome obstacles but has also discovered that this commitment opens up more opportunities, making sound business and financial sense.

Know more:



<https://dtcworld.com/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/dtc-world/>

WRITING OUR FUTURE : HOW OVOL SINGAPORE ESTABLISHES SUSTAINABILITY IN THE PAPER INDUSTRY

OVOL
OVOL Singapore Pte Ltd





Not a follower, but a sustainability trendsetter

**Sustainably sourced.
Credibly assessed.**

At OVOL, CSR and sustainability are closely intertwined. Since 2007, the company has focused on communicating the core purpose of their sustainability initiatives to employees, while ensuring they are seamlessly embedded into business operations.

At the same time, OVOL remains committed to meeting shareholder expectations by achieving its budgeted profitability and growth targets.



OVOL is a supplier of premium quality, sustainable paper, formed through the amalgamation of two subsidiaries (Spicers Paper and JPP Far East). OVOL's sustainability journey began in 2007, making them Singapore's first paper merchant to achieve Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification. Driven by a commitment to sustainable sourcing and promoting FSC and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) papers, OVOL became a pioneer in offering certified papers from sustainably managed forests. This dedication has allowed them to provide customers with more sustainable alternatives for printed collateral, earning them the UN Global Compact Network Singapore (then known as Singapore Compact for SR) Accountable Marketer Award in 2010.

**A holistic approach
to sustainability**

Sustainability at OVOL goes beyond making a raw material switch. A culture of environmental sustainability is also ingrained in daily practices, with employees habitually switching off lights, air-conditioning, and machinery when not in use - simple actions that help to lower emissions.

Carbon tracking has been vital in providing OVOL with ongoing insights to improve internal processes and further reduce emissions. UNGCNS' Carbon Emission & Recording Tool (CERT) has been instrumental in this effort, offering valuable data and insights that have allowed OVOL to optimise their operations, leading to a

7.5% reduction in emissions in August 2021 and a further improvement of 5% in August 2022. The company became the first in their industry to achieve the LowCarbonSG mark in 2021, a programme helmed by UNGCNS and supported by the National Environment Agency (NEA) and Enterprise Singapore. OVOL also received the LowCarbonSG award which was presented to them at the 8th Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards in 2024.



To support the Singapore Green Plan 2030, OVOL has allocated funds from every sale since July 2021 to contribute to the OneMillionTrees movement an initiative of the National Parks Board. In September 2022, with SGD 15,000, 50 trees were planted together with their stakeholders along Mandai Avenue Singapore. Another 50 trees are expected to be planted in the first half of 2024.



Other waste-reducing efforts include the collection of wooden pallets from customers for recycling and repurposing of used release liners into packaging material.



Supporting individual, organisational, and national level change

On the S in ESG, OVOL's corporate philosophy emphasises the importance of protecting human capital, recognising that good people are key to any organisation's success. Employee satisfaction remains a

top priority, driven by OVOL's commitment to fair opportunities and compensation and values-driven culture. These efforts have helped OVOL build and maintain a stable and inclusive team. Even during the COVID -19 period that was plagued by economic uncertainty and record levels of employee dissatisfaction, OVOL maintained an impressive average worker tenure of 14 years, with several team members having received long service awards for 15-30 years of dedication.



We strongly believe in fair employment practices. Some of our employees have risen through the ranks to take on more senior positions and employees have remained with us even when salary increments were not that favourable, especially in tougher economic times.” - *Genevieve Chua*.



Genevieve Chua
Chief Executive Officer, OVOL

It takes a village

A responsible value chain is yet another bottom line for OVOL.

Recognising the enormity of sustainability efforts required for real impact, OVOL has made it a mission to share their corporate philosophy with partners and clients by participating in & organising talks, training & seminars on CSR & sustainability.

One such initiative was held during the 2015 Southeast Asian Haze crisis, which featured the PEFC, a leading global alliance of national forest certification systems.

Scaling impact

In 2022, to support their industry and the national agenda to build sustainability capabilities for SMEs, OVOL collaborated with the Print and Media Association Singapore (PMAS) to provide sustainability training for their members. By actively promoting the initiative, a bespoke run of UNGCNS' "Foundations in Corporate Sustainability" - a course under the Enterprise Sustainability Programme was successfully conducted in November 2022, and 34 business owners and employees from 18 PMAS-member companies were upskilled with a broad understanding on sustainability reporting.



Deepening the value chain engagement

Through the use of UNGCNS' Responsible Index Communicator for Enterprises (RICE) tool which was offered as part of the "Foundations in Corporate Sustainability" course, OVOL expanded its sustainability assessment beyond carbon into other aspects of ESG, including governance of their supply chain. OVOL's top 10 key strategic suppliers which comprise 75% of their total purchases from third- party sources now undergo sustainability risk assessment and evaluation.



We believe our customers and suppliers know that we maintain a firm belief in integrity, building solid business relationships and having fair and transparent business practices all of which go a long way in being a partner of choice in good and not so good times - *Genevieve Chua*.

Performance Summary for the Year

	Points	Maximum Points	Percentage
Governance	63	80	79%
Human Rights	63	80	79%
Environment	62	80	78%
Labour	63	80	79%
Anti-Corruption	56	80	70%
Total	307	400	77%



Using the UNGCNS' RICE and CERT tools have also aided OVOL's preparations in responding to EcoVadis' assessment of their environmental, social, and ethical

performance as requested by a customer. In their first assessment, OVOL achieved a Gold standard, scoring in the 97th percentile.



Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

OVOL participates in Clean Up @ South West, an annual flagship recycling programme. In a concerted effort to bolster circular economies, between August to October 2022, OVOL employees donated 44 kg of old clothing along with 556 kg of surplus paper in exchange for groceries which were donated to the Food Bank Singapore.



Beyond this, OVOL has been engaging in multiple social initiatives including supporting various charitable and non-profit organisations and participating in fundraising activities. As individuals, OVOL's leaders and employees have contributed personally to many charity donation drives across Indonesia, Cambodia and Singapore. Additionally, during the circuit breaker at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in Singapore, they collectively pooled their funds, sourcing and distributing face masks to 10 different senior citizen homes in Singapore.

The Japanese concept of 自利利他 (pronounced "Jiririta")-which demonstrates how one will always benefit in one way or another through acts of consideration towards others- resonates with the OVOL team and serves as the crucial driving force behind their values of integrity, fairness, and in harmony with their corporate philosophy.



Optimism and opportunities amid challenging times

Needless to say we face incredible challenges ahead but they are not insurmountable.
- Genevieve Chua.

Despite the challenges, OVOL remains optimistic and focused on new opportunities. One area of focus is further reducing carbon emissions by calculating Scope 3 emissions, a complex task. Additionally, they are considering converting their current forklift fleet from diesel to biofuel, a move that would cost 70% more according to their analysis, or to switch completely to new electric forklifts. This is not in the immediate plan as the current fleet is in good working condition and fully depreciated. They have also discussed with their delivery service provider about their plans to convert to electric vehicles.

OVOL views sustainability as a "long game", a journey that is also about sustainable growth in challenging times, taking a realistic lens to review cost structure, and finding ways to develop new revenue streams. In September 2022, OVOL acquired a Singapore SME that produces thermal transfer ribbons and flexible packaging solutions - this is a departure from the company's traditional core business-towards diversification as



part of their strategy for growth.

The management and staff of OVOL remain committed to upholding their mission of Carving a Better Future for Society and the Environment while working to achieve sustainable growth.

As a member of UNGCNS for the past 15 years, and a Gold Donor since 2019, the networking events have been good for connecting with like inded companies.



OVOL Singapore's alignment of its practices and policies with relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





SDG Goal #3: Good Health & Well-Being

OVOL is BizSafe3 certified and has corporate policies on workplace health and safety. They organised Annual health checkups for staff, promote workplace health programmes (health talks, exercises, etc) and have Flexible Work Arrangements.



SDG Goal #5: Gender Equality

OVOL has adopted the Tripartite Alliance for Fair & Progressive Employment Practices (TAFEP) for fair employment practices. They provide equal opportunities for all staff, and 30% of Senior Management staff are women (in line with the Singapore Government's 2030 target).



SDG Goal #8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

OVOL adheres to the National Labour Legislation and Requirements by the Ministry of Manpower (MOM). They also have a whistle-blowing system, a diversification strategy for sustainable growth of Company and provides its employees with relevant skills/training courses.



SDG Goal #10: Reduced Inequalities

Along with the adoption of TAFEP, OVOL provides equal opportunities for all staff-inclusive & open to all regardless of race, religion and ethnicity.



SDG Goal #11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

OVOL contributes to various non-profit organisations and charities. They also support communities through events and initiatives such as Clean Up Southwest!, Boys' Brigade Share-A-Gift, and more.



SDG Goal #12: Responsible Consumption & Production

OVOL is a pioneer in the introduction, promotion and distribution of paper from responsible forestry, thus providing corporates in Singapore with choices. They also engage in discussions with suppliers about sustainability measures, waste and carbon reduction practices.



SDG Goal #13: Climate Action

As a LowCarbonSG participant, OVOL actively monitors and reduces its carbon footprint. They have lots of Waste and recycling initiatives to promote and reduce packaging waste. They also do tree planting through the One MillionTree initiative and participate in the Earth Hour initiative.



SDG Goal #15: Life On Land

Paper from OVOL is FSC and PEFC certified. They also promote awareness of the use of paper from sustainable forests and provide corporations in Singapore with choices.



SDG Goal #16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

OVOL has corporate policies on Governance in place and they have a Corporate philosophy and spirit to nurture people through integrity, foster trust through fairness and support society through harmony.



SDG Goal #17: Partnership for The Goals

OVOL is part of the Japan Pulp & Paper Group listed on the Tokyo Exchange, with a presence in 22 countries including Singapore. As a Member of UNGCNS and CPLC Partner, they partner with various companies in Singapore. They also support Singapore Environment Council (SEC) & Nparks.



Know more:



<https://ovol.com.sg/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ovol-singapore-pte-ltd/>

A BREATH OF FRESH FISH: HOW SEATOBAG® MADE FISH FARMS PROFITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE

» **SEATOBAG** »
For Healthier Seafood



Fish Farms Profitable and Sustainable

Managing Director Albert Tay, along with the team at SEATOBAG® sought to revolutionise the fish supply chain to address the global reliance on aquaculture for food. Their efforts also support the goals of the Singapore Green Plan 2030 which aims to promote a green economy, enhance food security and build climate resilience.

Albert's sustainability journey began when he recognised the growing challenge of sustaining both the aquafarming business and the ecosystem of Pulau Kukup, the world's second-largest uninhabited mangrove island situated in Johor, Malaysia.

Based in Singapore, SEATOBAG® is a science and biotechnology company that aims to build resilient food ecosystems with nature-positive food solutions. One of the company's key initiatives lies in improving the way aquatic food is produced.

Traditional fish farming often depends on Omega-3 rich fish feed, which typically consists of fishmeal (ground-up fish) and fish oil. Producing this, however, is extremely resource intensive, with a third of the global fish stocks going toward making fish meal and fish oil.

Over the years too, SEATOBAG® has witnessed a vicious cycle of rapidly deteriorating water quality tainted by excessive food and waste, causing high mortality rates between 50% to 80% - of fish that were being farmed. This in turn leads to further harm to the surrounding ecosystem, as well as estimated financial losses of USD 6 billion annually from reduced fish quality and farm profitability decline.

*Our appetite for fish is eating away at the ocean.
Is sustainable fish farming the answer?*



Cleaning up food supply chains with clean feed and going circular

In an effort to replace the highly polluting fish feed, the SEATOBAG® team formulated the Miiome™ Aqua Feed, which is fermented with proprietary postbiotic to provide essential nutrients for healthy fish growth. This innovation not only increased yield and productivity but also reduced bio-waste from farming, helping to restore

a healthy microbiome in the ecosystem. As a result, wild-growing sea grapes and mussels were discovered around their farms.

The Miiome™ Aqua Feed formulation has enabled SEATOBAG® to produce the LACTOSEAFOOD® fish, a chemical-free and additive-free product that is richer in Omega-3 and essential fatty acids. Indeed a huge achievement, considering that the aquaculture industry was Singapore's largest consumer of antimicrobials in 2017.

The final process involves cleaning and coating the fish with their biocrobeX™ postbiotic which has a natural anti-microbial property that acts as a bio-preservative. This enables the fish to be vacuum sealed and flash frozen, helping to retain their freshness and flavour even after an extended period of storage of up to two years.

In the spirit of transforming waste to wealth, and designing waste out of the system, SEATOBAG® is trialling using biocrobeX™ postbiotic converting fish waste into an organic fertiliser. This initiative aims to explore the benefits of the fertiliser on vegetable growth and colour.



Like most manufacturing companies, SEATOBAG®'s main challenge lies in making the switch to green energy without incurring high conversion costs within their business operations and infrastructure.



Overcoming challenges faced in building a sustainable supply chain

Finding cost-efficient solutions for packaging frozen food fish & aqua feeds has also proven difficult, as no commercially viable solution has been found so far.

UNGCNS has supported SEATOBAG® by providing valuable sustainability resources to aid their journey towards becoming a responsible business. This includes facilitating capacity building, outreach, learning, thought leadership and partnerships.



We appreciate the variety of tools and resources to help us take the next step in our sustainability journey in the likes of webinars, videos, guides, reports, case studies and courses” - *Albert Tay*



One such tool is the Carbon & Emissions Recording Tool (CERT) which SEATOBAG® has used to measure, manage, track and report on, their resource consumption and emissions.

In 2021, the business' total electrical consumption was 18,054 kWh, whilst CO2 emissions were reduced to 2,065 kg. The process of preserving the freshness of the frozen fish also contributes to lowering emissions by enabling sea and road transportation to be used, rather than higher-emitting air transport.

The data been essential for identifying areas for improvement, planning and achieving sustainability goals.

It also supports management and employees in their efforts to focus and engage in 'Reduce & Recycle' practices as part of the company's decarbonisation journey, while helping to attract investors and like-minded partners.



For the second consecutive year, the company has been recognised by the Singapore Chapter of Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition Singapore (CPLC Singapore) as a valued participant in “LowCarbonSG”. Increasing brand value Optimised savings SEATOBAG® is one of theseven participating farms of WWF Malaysia's Aquaculture Improvement Project (AIP) aimed at promoting best practices within the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) Standards. This in turn has led to ACTOSEAFOOD®'s listing on WWF Malaysia's Responsible Seafood supplier, and wider recognition as a producer of sustainable fish both by trade partners and consumers.

“We believe that sustainability is about balancing competing needs. Allowing natural resources to replace and renew themselves as we harvest food is what will safeguard humanity’s future. Because when we take care of nature, nature will take care of us, too” - Albert Tay

Working towards the SDGs with biotechnology solutions and postbiotic applications



The sea is our greatest resource

SEATOBAG®’s vision for a sustainable and resilient food ecosystem drives their efforts to bring consistency in food safety and achieve food security of food sources for humanity and towards the Sustainable Development Goals.



SDG Goal #2: Zero Hunger

As one of the world’s fastest growing food sectors, sustainable aquaculture is vital for achieving food security. SEATOBAG®’s Miiome™ Aqua Feed enables farmers to improve their yield of farmed fish through healthier fish and lower mortality rates.



SDG Goal #12: Responsible Consumption & Production

Many farmed fish species such as salmon require Omega-3s to help them grow. In the wild, they would get these naturally from their diet. Farmed fish are given this in their feed, which typically consists of fishmeal (ground fish) & fish oil. Producing this, however, is extremely resource intensive, with a third of the global fish stocks going toward making fish meal and fish oil. OurMiiome™ Aqua Feed aims to reduce the fishmeal content in aqua feeds without compromising the growth and health of the fish.



SDG Goal #3: Good Health & Well-Being

SEATOBAG®'s LACTOSEAFOOD® fishes are free from chemicals and antibiotics, richer in Omega-3 and contain 25% more essential fatty acids.



SDG Goal #14: Life Below Water

Using the microbial intervention approach of Miiiome™ Technology, our aquaculture farming practice reduce water pollution, often boosts natural production and species diversity and balancing the microbiome in the waters we farmed.



SDG Goal #13: Climate Action

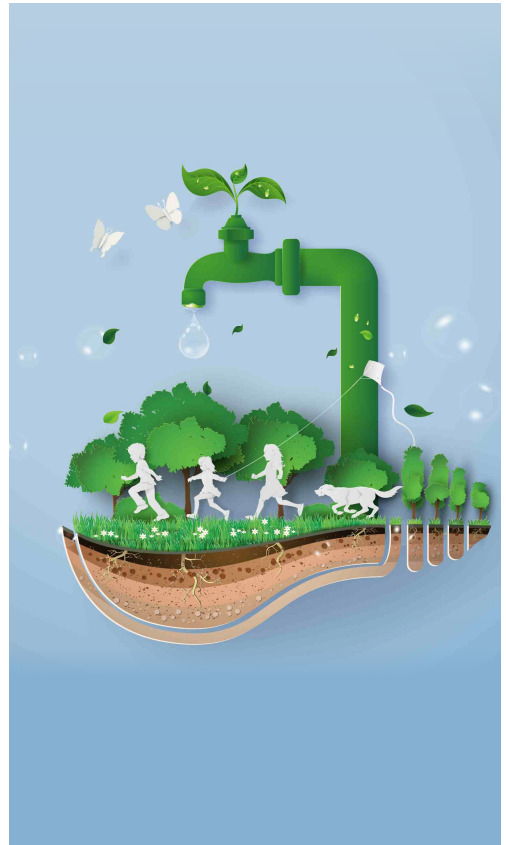
LACTOSEAFOOD® which is cleaned, processed, and then coated with biocrobeX™ postbiotic enables the extension of the shelf life of the frozen fish for up to 2 years, while still retaining the flavour and freshness. Once the fish is frozen, it can be transported by road/sea instead of air which helps to reduce CO2 emissions from transportation or wastage of resources from fish spoiling.



SDG Goal #9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG Goal #17: Partnership for the Goals

SEATOBAG® works with various stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations, farm owners and government agencies to promote sustainable aquaculture approaches using our various solutions.



Know more:



<https://www.seatobag.com/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/seatobagpteltd/>

CONCLUSION

As we reflect on the sustainability journeys for businesses in Singapore today, it is clear that challenges remain. The collective determination and innovative spirit of businesses across Singapore are driving us closer to a more sustainable future. The stories shared in this book, along with the strategies and insights provided, offer valuable guidance for overcoming these hurdles and harnessing the full potential of sustainability efforts.

Thank you for being part of this important conversation, and for your contribution to a more sustainable world. We look forward to welcoming you to the UNGCNS community and becoming part of a growing network of companies in Singapore dedicated to creating a more sustainable future.





Global Compact
Network Singapore



JOIN THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT TOWARDS CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY

If you've got a vision for the future and would like to connect with likeminded businesses we urge you to be a part of UNGCNS' driving force of collective change. Together, we can build a more sustainable future.

Get in touch:



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